

Famous Arctic Explorers Differ as to Truth of Dr. Cook's Report

question to discuss the accuracy or probability of Doctor Cook's statement. It is neither just nor generous to question in any way the genuineness of such a claim before full details are made public by the traveler. Indeed, we have much sympathy because of the difficulties by which Doctor Cook or any other solitary explorer is hampered in attempting to convince a skeptical world of geographical experts of the reliability of his observations and reports. We trust Doctor Cook will meet with the fairness his particular case especially invites.

Others May Follow Track

The Morning Post says: "If Doctor Cook has found a new track to the pole in so short a time as 25 days, others can follow in his footsteps and verify his story for themselves. When the matter has been settled beyond all doubt the civilized world will acclaim Cook as one of the greatest explorers of all time."

Doctor Hugh R. Hill, former librarian of the Royal geographical society, is skeptical, but says that great weight must be attached to the opinion of polar experts in America.

Sir Martin Conway, a noted explorer, thinks that Doctor Cook's claim could be accepted if his story, on examination, is found to hang together.

Sir George S. Narves, who commanded the Challenger in 1872 and was with an arctic expedition in 1875, says: "I should ask Doctor Cook to what distance from the pole did the polar land extend and whether he communicated with Peary's party."

Professor Milne, the seismologist, thinks that if Doctor Cook has a few properly taken photographs of the sky at the pole on April 21, 1908, they may assist in determining the position he reached.

Copenhagen Plans Welcome

COPENHAGEN, Sept. 2.—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, meager as it was, was accepted as conclusive. Commodore Hovgaard said today: "I believe the message is true, because Doctor Cook is most trustworthy and opposed to all exaggeration."

C. A. Nielsen, an official of the Greenland administration department, said: "When Doctor 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 Doctor Cook on his arrival at Copenhagen. Dr. Maurice E. Egan, the American minister, will be aboard a special steamer that will be chartered by the Royal geographical society to meet Doctor Cook, who is on his way here on the steamer Hans Egede. The Danish government tonight dispatched the torpedo boat Jutland from Aarhus to meet Doctor Cook, and the Jutland will probably come across the Hans Egede off the Skaw. The commander will convey congratulations to the explorer in behalf of the government. The special committee of the Royal geographical society will invite Doctor Cook to be the society's guest during his stay at Copenhagen.

France Pays Tribute

PARIS, Sept. 2.—The Matin, commenting on Dr. Cook's success, says: "For the last five centuries efforts of explorers have tended toward the pole; for five centuries explorers have rushed to the arctic extremity of the world. All peoples have tried to pierce the mystery of the polar ice and reach the exact spot where is the pole and it is America which emerges triumphant in this heroic journey."

"It is difficult to estimate what science will gain by this discovery. It is notably difficult to know if Nansen's theory—the famous theory, according to which the north pole is only a sea covered with a thick crust of ice drifting from east to west—will be confirmed or upset. "Dr. Cook in his account does not make clear to the ice on which he planted the flag covers terrestrial soil or the depths of the sea. However, a great feat has been accomplished and a marvelous victory has been won by the courage and tenacity of man over the savage brutality and relentless resistance of matter and none will seek to stifle to young America the enthusiasm which the glorious conquest merits; none will refuse her the tribute or admiration earned by one of her sons for the triumph which he has achieved for civilization."

Discovery Is Corroborated

WASHINGTON, Sept. 2.—Maurice F. Egan, United States minister at Copenhagen, has telegraphed the state department that Doctor Cook's reported discovery of the north pole has been corroborated by Bergaard Jensen, the Danish inspector of North Greenland.

Critiques Route Taken

PORTLAND, Ore., Sept. 2.—Dr. L. O. Wolf, surgeon with Lieutenant Robert Peary's expedition of 1905-6, and at present a resident of this city, while in no way disparaging Doctor Cook's accomplishment in reaching the north pole, is inclined to criticize the discoverer of the pole for his alleged following of a portion of the route which Peary has been working out for the last 20 years.

Doctor Wolf says that Doctor Cook, in thus using Peary's route, violated the ethics of polar expeditions, and asserts that the discoverer of the pole should have followed a route of his own.

Doctor Wolf says that scientific investigation of the proofs furnished by Doctor Cook very soon will determine whether or not the latter actually stood at the pole. It would, according to Doctor Wolf, be impossible for an explorer to manufacture proofs which would withstand the microscopic scrutiny of scientific men.

Avoided Peary's Mistake
POUGHKEEPSIE, N. Y., Sept. 2.—Dillon Wallace, a noted explorer, whose companion, Leonidas Hubbard, starved to death while exploring Labrador, today said that he had implicit faith in Doctor Cook's wonderful feat. Wallace had almost completed plans for an expedition for the relief of Doctor Cook.

"I have no doubt that Doctor Cook reached the north pole," said Wallace. "He is a man of extreme reliability, fairly scientific and versed in the arctic geographical conditions. He has always manifested truthfulness in every report, and concerning explorations in the north he had been exact."

"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. Thus he would avoid the awful eastern drift of the terrible current in the polar seas north of Greenland."

"Peary undoubtedly would have accomplished what Doctor 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."

WAR SECRETARY WINS CASE FOR CHAUFFEUR
NASHVILLE, Tenn., Sept. 2.—Secretary of War Jacob M. Dickinson appeared in the city court today in behalf of his chauffeur, who was accused of exceeding the speed limit. It was shown the automobile was making only 23 miles an hour and the secretary was on his way to the custom house on official business. The case was dismissed.

"We know better" than to handle clothes of makers having department store reputation. The weakest spot in "department haberdasheries" is evident in their men's clothing section. All the page advertisements in the world can't produce good clothes from waning makers. It's as plain as the nose on your face that the "Tiffany quality of men's clothes" can only be had in exclusive shops like ours. The proof of the pudding is in chewing the string.

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Post Street near Kearny
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The rear admiral who brands as a "fake" Cook's tale of reaching the north pole, and four famous explorers who believe and praise the intrepid American

ADMIRAL MELVILLE DOUBTS TRUTH OF COOK'S STORY

PHILADELPHIA, Sept. 2.—"After reading the dispatches today I am more convinced than ever that the reported discovery of the north pole is a fake," was the emphatic declaration of Rear Admiral George Melville, U. S. N., retired, who is qualified to comment on north pole questions because of his intimacy with the northern regions as well as his familiarity with the progress of expeditions thither within the last 40 years.

"I do not mean to say that Doctor Cook is a faker. I do not know him personally. But from my experience I would say that there is nothing to confirm the original dispatches. Some of the best equipped expeditions have cost from \$150,000 to \$200,000. I know that Dr. Cook had no such outfit."

"There is nothing in the story thus far told to indicate that Dr. Cook has found anything new."

COULD INVENT OBSERVATIONS
"Indeed, I can not see why the reported story of his expedition could not have been written by any one who had reached within 100 miles of the pole. I could sit in my office and invent observations of all sorts."

"Yet, no one can positively deny the truthfulness of Dr. Cook's story. I have heard that the Royal geographical society is reported to have discredited it. If this is so, I will reiterate more strongly than ever that Dr. Cook's alleged discovery of the north pole is highly improbable."

"According to Dr. Cook's story, no mention is made of the travel from April 14 to April 21, 1908. His bearings on the former date were, it is reported, 83 degrees 21 minutes north latitude, and roughly speaking, a distance of about 100 miles remained before him after April 14. An average of about 14 miles a day thereafter must have been maintained."

NORTHERN DRIFT IMPROBABLE
"That the land drift was northward in Dr. Cook's expedition is not at all impossible, but it is very improbable. "The talk of having killed musk oxen is not new. These animals were killed years ago. The apparent case of Dr. Cook's travel near the pole is what inclines me strongly to discredit the story. With a pack of good dogs and sleds in Siberia, over smooth snow, the best distances I ever made was 50 miles a day. Ice travel is much more difficult."

Admiral Melville is 68 years old. He has been on three arctic expeditions—the Hall relief expedition in 1873, the Jeannette expedition in 1878-81, and the Greely relief expedition in 1882.

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COOK'S SUCCESS CREDITED BY ANTARCTIC EXPLORER

LONDON, Sept. 2.—After reading a brief summary of Dr. Frederick A. Cook's account of his dash to the north pole Lieutenant Ernest H. Shackleton, who recently led an expedition to the antarctic regions, said that no one had a right to be skeptical. There was nothing in the explorer's statement but what was possible.

"Consequently," continued the lieutenant, "I do not think the time it took him to return is against his statement. The question is, what distance was he actually from the pole when he started with the Eskimos. He must have done 12 miles a day to cover the distance given in 35 days."

"No other expedition has been able to do anything near this, as two miles a day is considered good progress, but Cook must have traveled over absolutely smooth ice, which is a unique condition."

Gold Medal for Explorer
ROME, Sept. 2.—The members of the Italian geographical society are highly gratified Doctor Cook's reported discovery of the north pole. As soon as the president of the society returns to Rome the society will give to Doctor Cook its gold medal.

Doctor Cook will be requested to come to Rome to lecture before King Victor Emmanuel and the queen. Commander Cagni, the only member of the Abruzzi expedition to reach 83 degrees 3 minutes north, said that Doctor Cook's success was a triumph in which the entire civilized world could take pride.

Greely Praises Doctor Cook
General Adolphus W. Greely, Arctic explorer and commander of the 1884 expedition, said: "Dr. Cook's achievement, reported by the Danish colonial office, must be viewed as the most extraordinary feat of polar exploration. He was practically without all that had been considered an indispensable equipment for extensive polar travel."

"The attainment of the north geographical pole by an American is an accomplishment that merits the highest possible acknowledgment and consideration by the American people. As one who once beat the record, I offer my heartiest congratulations."

Difficult Route Followed
CHRISTIANA, Sept. 2.—Captain Roald Amundsen, the Norwegian Arctic explorer, was interviewed here today on Doctor Cook's triumph.

Doctor Cook was my partner on the Belgica expedition as physician," he said, "and all on board appreciated highly his experience and his ability. His was an uncommonly staunch, preserving and energetic personality, and I admire him. The route chosen by Doctor Cook presented unusually difficult problems. This was proved by Commander Peary's experiences."

"The possible results from Doctor Cook's achievements will have no influence on my projected expedition. I am not planning to reach the point of the pole. My trip will be for oceanographic investigation. It would be highly interesting and important to know if Doctor Cook found a continent around the pole. But he was of necessity limited to mere visual impressions."

Abruzzi Praises Cook
ROME, Sept. 2.—The duke of Abruzzi, who has been keenly interested in polar exploration, said before he left for the Himalaya mountains that Dr. Frederick A. Cook was "perhaps the man destined to accomplish this great feat, which may be the greatest achievement of the twentieth century."

He based his opinion on what he had heard of Doctor Cook's former journeys and his preparations for this one. In a letter received recently at Turin from the duke the royal explorer asked if anything had been heard from Doctor Cook. He said he did not believe the American was dead, and expressed the belief that he would surpass all his predecessors on the road to the pole.

Valuable Scientific Results
WINNIPEG, Sept. 2.—"I believe Dr. Cook has reached the north pole," said Prof. Louis A. Batur of Carnegie institute, Washington.

"Dr. Cook discussed with me in 1907 his plans to reach the pole. He was profoundly impressed with the possibility of the great achievement if it was scientifically planned. His achievement will unquestionably be attended with the most valuable results to science. Dr. Cook has made an almost lifelong study of the northern and southern lights and should have much that is new to tell of these wonderful phenomena."

J. R. Tyrrell, an eminent engineer of Toronto, who is a member of the New York Explorers' club, of which Dr. Cook is also a member, recalled the circumstances of Dr. Cook's departure on his perilous expedition.

"Imagine sixty new styles in stiff and soft hats," Tom Dillon, opp. Call bldg.

BANKERS FOUND GUILTY—Pittsburg, Sept. 2.—Clifford H. Drum of Washington, Pa., former cashier of the Bank of Coal Center, and Frederick W. Ward, a businessman of this city, were today found guilty of conspiracy to defraud the Bank of Coal Center, Pa., of more than \$50,000. Sentence was postponed until September 13.

RAISE IN PRICES
—Next Thursday the price on all \$490 lots in Dingee Park will be raised to \$600—Absolutely No Exceptions

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UNCLE SAM MAY NOT CLAIM LAND FOUND BY AMERICAN EXPLORER

BEVERLY, Mass., Sept. 2.—Neither the president nor Secretary Knox would discuss Doctor Cook's discovery of the north pole. When the secretary was asked what the state department ought to do with the pole he laughingly replied, "Annex it, of course."

WASHINGTON, Sept. 2.—State department officials believe it is of little consequence to the United States what lands Doctor Cook has discovered on his way to the north pole, so far as actual territorial possession is concerned.

It is recalled by the department officials that ever since 1828 American explorers in both the arctic and antarctic have discovered vast areas of land to which no claims ever were made. The American Wilkes found in the antarctic a territory of more than 100,000 square miles in area, and Doctor Kane made large discoveries in the Arctic, but no effort has been made by the United States to assert its rights to them.

General Greely some years ago located lands which never before were known to exist.

Many of the world's greatest navigators have from time to time made their discoveries to which no claim was ever made. The principal reason for this, however, is said to be that the lands were almost inaccessible and absolutely of no value.

As to the particular territory which Doctor Cook is said to have discovered it was asserted that it was quite probable that these lands would be found to be an extension of the mainland of Greenland, and if so, they belong to Denmark. At any rate, it is extremely improbable, it is said, that the United States would attempt to assert sovereignty over them.

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