

## The Man Who Found the North Pole

**D**R. FREDERICK A. COOK, the famous American explorer who discovered the north pole, belongs to a family of German origin, the name having originally been Koeh. Tall, broad shouldered and deep chested, he has strength and endurance beyond most men. On one occasion, while climbing Mount McKinley, he and his associate sat all night perched on a shelf cut from solid ice on the verge of a precipice, not daring to go to sleep for fear of death and not having room in which to erect a tent. When at last the top of the previously unsealed mountain had been reached, there was a downward journey of four days, equally perilous. But the trip resulted in planting for the first time the star and stripes on the highest point in the western continent.

The training of Dr. Cook for commanding a polar expedition was thorough. A native of Sullivan county, N. Y., he was educated as a physician at the University of New York and in 1891, at the age of twenty-six, joined the first Peary expedition as surgeon. From 1897 to 1899 he was surgeon of the Belgian antarctic expedition, receiving for his services on this expedition the Order of Leopold from the Belgian government. Between 1903 and 1906 he led expeditions to climb Mount McKinley.

Dr. Cook's expedition to the north pole owes its existence to the interest of John R. Bradley, a New York millionaire, in arctic exploration and the plans of Dr. Cook. The Cook party was taken north in the summer of 1907 by the schooner John R. Bradley. This ship, formerly a Gloucester fishing vessel, was bought by Mr. Bradley and fitted up ostensibly for a hunting and fishing trip up the Labrador coast. It did, indeed, serve the purpose of a pleasure craft on the journey to Etah, on the Greenland coast, where Dr. Cook was left.

He left his only American companion, a young German-American named Rudolph Francke, at Annotok, twenty miles north of Etah, which is the northernmost inhabited settlement on the west coast of Greenland.

On May 7, 1908, the last word of Cook until recently came to Francke. It came in a letter dated March 17 and



DR. FREDERICK A. COOK.

instructed Francke to go back to New York if Dr. Cook did not return to Annotok by early June. As the explorer did not appear at that time Francke started southward and after enduring terrible privations in his struggle over the ice was picked up at Etah on Aug. 17 by Peary's auxiliary steamship Erik and was landed at St. John's, Newfoundland. Later he was returned to his home in Hoboken, N. J.

Dr. Cook's message of March 17 to Francke showed, however, that his case was not absolutely hopeless.

Francke experienced much difficulty in finding his way back to Etah. He struggled over the ice and more than once was on the verge of succumbing to the severe strain of the trip. He was picked up at Etah on Aug. 17 of last year by Peary's auxiliary steamer Erik and was landed at St. John's, N. F., whence the news of the possible loss of Dr. Cook was sent out by telegraph. On his return to New York Francke told of the hardships he had endured, and these gave some idea of what Dr. Cook must have undergone in his trip farther north.

At North Star bay Francke rested and was attended by a physician. Then he started back for Etah, making the journey in a trifle over a month.

When Francke told his story the impression gained ground that Dr. Cook must have perished, and immediately there was talk of forming a relief expedition. The Arctic club started a subscription list, but plans were slow in forming, and it was not until last

July that the relief expedition was organized out. Members of the Arctic club felt that Dr. Cook probably had plenty of provisions and that he would not starve, but they feared that he might be injured and that unless relief were got to him he would perish.

Rear Admiral Schley before the vessel left issued a circular letter stating that Dr. Cook was probably in a bad plight and that an attempt to rescue him would be made, but that \$50,000 was needed. The money poured in to the club so that when the start was made the relief ship was equipped with provisions to last at least three years. It was planned to take exactly the same trip as Dr. Cook had mapped out, so far as the word received from him indicated.

## The Man Who Backed Dr. Cook

**T**HE name of John R. Bradley promises to become almost as well known as that of Dr. Frederick A. Cook, for it was he who financed the north pole expedition and made the achievement of the explorer possible. Aside from his part in the Cook expedition, however, Mr. Bradley has gained no little fame for himself as a traveler and hunter, and much has been written about his exploits and thrilling adventures. He has shot lions in Africa, laid low the tiger in India, slain the mighty grizzly in the Rocky mountains and made numerous expeditions to the arctic for walruses and polar bears. In fact, he has explored and hunted in nearly every country in the world.

Mr. Bradley's apartment in New York city is probably the most remarkable of any of its kind in the country, furnished as it is with so many wonderful trophies of his skill. The skins of leopards and zebras hang over chair and tables, and the grand piano is draped with a rug of the skins of the sacred monkeys of Uganda, the hair of which is long, soft and silky. Feet and tusks of elephants, rhinoceroses and hippopotamuses have been turned into stools, toilet boxes, lamp stands and other articles that combine utility and ornament, and so beautiful have some of these feet been treated that they resemble tortoise shell. Around the banister of the stairs the skin of a rock python eighteen feet long is twined, and a similar skin has been used by some African savage to form a musical instrument which looks like a cross between a banjo and a harp.

How Mr. Bradley and Dr. Cook came to plan the expedition that resulted in the discovery of the north pole is told by the former, as follows: "In 1906, after my hunting trip to Mongolia, I met Cook one day in New York city.

"Well, where are you bound for next?" he asked.

"Up to the arctic to shoot the big game there," I replied. "Come along with me. Come as my guest. It will be good sport."

"He would not promise, however, so I told him to think it over. My met



JOHN R. BRADLEY.

again several times and finally arranged to start in the spring or summer of 1907.

"Then we went to Gloucester, Mass., and there had a vessel especially constructed for northern travel.

"All this time we still intended to go on a hunting trip.

"As we were storing our equipment I said that we had enough to go on a dash for the pole.

"Let's do it!" shouted Cook enthusiastically.

"None of those trips for me," I answered. "They are too much of a good

thing. But I'll turn over the whole equipment to you and land you wherever you say if you want to try it."

Mr. Bradley stands six feet in height, weighs about 200 pounds and is a native of this country, having been born in Johnstown, Pa. He inherited a fortune and no sooner came into possession of it than he started out to hunt big game all over the world and has been doing little else for many years. In every essential he looks the well bred, well dressed New Yorker. Always attired in the height of fashion, he has none of the characteristics of a fop. His piercing black eyes look squarely at you. His lithe, athletic figure denotes a healthy, clean life spent in the open.

A wonderful store of nervous energy, backed by a strong constitution, has stood this hunter in good stead, and there is hardly a spot on the globe where big game abounds that he has not visited. His kills make those of some other big hunters pale into insignificance, yet in telling about them he endeavors to dismiss the subject by saying:

"Oh, we had rare good sport, you know, and then, too, we were very lucky, for you must know that luck plays a big part in every hunter's life. One might just as well be without ammunition as luck when going forth into the jungle."

Mr. Bradley has written some clever and interesting magazine stories and in the near future will write a book about big game hunting.

## Peary's Search For The Pole

**W**HATEVER the outcome of the north pole controversy, two facts stand out clearly—the north pole has been discovered, and by an American, both Cook and Peary having been born in this country. Peary's success in reaching the long coveted goal came after twenty-three years of voyaging, and his is a story of intense interest. It was in 1886, when thirty years old, that he made his first trip north and caught the arctic fever as no man ever had it before. The twenty-three years since then have been a continuous period of planning and effort to reach the north pole. His initial trip north was for the purpose of making a reconnaissance of the Greenland inland ice cap.

On his return Peary devoted all of his spare time preparing for another expedition north. This started in June, 1891. It was financed by the Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia. This trip added immensely to the knowledge of geographers. It determined the fact that the great inland ice cap terminates south of latitude 82 and that Greenland is an island. Lying beyond Greenland he discovered and named Melville Land and Heilprin Land. On this expedition he made a notable journey of 1,300 miles over the inland ice at an altitude of from 5,000 to 8,000 feet.

In 1893 Peary went on his third trip north, the voyage lasting until 1895. His curious knack of comprehending the character of the Eskimo and winning his trust was then, as thereafter,



PEARY'S SHIP IN ARCTIC ICE.

very useful to him. His wife was with him. In winter camp on this trip, in the midst of long wastes, only 18 degrees from the pole, his daughter Marie was born.

This trip was prolific with interesting scientific results. He made a thorough study of the tribe of highlanders who live in some parts of the arctic regions. He also discovered the famous Iron mountain, which was first heard of by Ross in 1818.

Peary's examination of this mountain of iron disclosed the fact that it was composed of three meteorites. One of these weighed ninety tons, the largest known to exist. Peary met with only one failure on this trip, and that was to reach the most northern end of Greenland.

The years 1897 and 1898 Peary devoted to a summer expedition to the frozen north. He went to Cape York

and brought back to the United States the meteorites which he discovered there on a previous voyage. In 1898, under the auspices of the Peary Arctic club, he undertook another expedition. On this trip he succeeded in rounding the northern extremity of the Greenland archipelago, the last of the great arctic land groups. He found the most northerly projection of land which is known to exist, Cape Morris K. Jesup, named after the late well known banker, who assisted him financially to defray the cost of his other trips. This cape is in the eighty-third parallel of latitude. He also reached the farthest north that had been reached at that time, the eighty-fourth parallel of latitude.

Peary was awarded the Kane gold medal by the Philadelphia Geographical society for this feat and the Daly gold medal from the American Geographical society. In 1905, mainly through the financial assistance of the late Morris K. Jesup, he fitted out another expedition. He now had the steamer Roosevelt, named after Theodore Roosevelt, which was peculiarly constructed for this purpose, with its screw tie rods to bind it together, its almost solid filling in at the bows, its heavily armored stem and sheathed hull.

Before he set out some one asked Peary what the discovery of the pole would mean. He gave with characteristic enthusiasm this answer:

"It is to open up 3,000,000 square miles of absolutely unknown regions. The race is both sentimental and moral, and if we win we will be victorious in the greatest contest ever engaged in by nations wherein there was no jealousy."

The dash for the pole on this trip began on July 26, 1905, but on July 30, 1906, Peary returned to his ship below Cape Union with only forty-one dogs left out of the 120 that had started. He boarded her, however, with the satisfaction of holding the record for farthest north. She hammered and ground her way through the bergs and ice floes of the northern seas and so came to St. George's bay, Newfoundland, on Nov. 10, 1906.

Last year Peary again started on the Roosevelt from New York determined to find the north pole, so long sought for, or die in the attempt.

## NEW ALASKA STRIKES.

**Rich Finds Made This Year in a Number of Regions.**

Numerous new strikes of gold and copper have been made in Alaska recently. Around Seward the season has been richer in important finds than any previous one, and a large area is now filled with prospectors, while substantial development will still further have established the importance of the area before snow flies. Every one who can get away from Seward is in the hills, and others are reported going in.

The Yukon-Tanana region and the Seward peninsula are the most important centers of placer mining. These two provinces have an annual production of approximately \$16,000,000. The gold and silver lodes are found chiefly in southeastern Alaska, and copper is mostly confined to the central portion



PROSPECTORS ON A NEW CLAIM.

of the Prince of Wales islands and Prince William sound, some 500 miles northwest. The copper belt lies on the northern slope of the Wrangel mountains.

Alaska has already, in the brief period since gold was discovered there, added over \$150,000,000 to the world's wealth.

## THE KAISER'S ENVOY.

**He Sends to Hudson-Fulton Fete German Navy's Highest Officer.**

Practically the whole world will participate in the Hudson-Fulton celebration in New York, almost every foreign nation sending warships and representatives to take part in the great naval parade and other events. Emperor William, who never does things of this kind by halves, will send some of Germany's greatest battleships for the occasion and has selected as the

country's representative Admiral von Koester, admiral in chief of the German navy. He will rank among the



ADMIRAL VON KOESTER.

highest of the foreign naval representatives at the celebration and will be a leading figure in the affair.

Admiral von Koester was born in 1844 at Mecklenburg and received his education in Berlin. In 1870 he became a cadet on the Niobe and saw service in Asiatic waters. He was raised to a captaincy in 1881, received the rank of admiral in 1897 and four years ago was made grand admiral of the German navy.

Among other large countries sending representatives to the celebration are Great Britain, France, Italy, Spain and Japan, a prince of the royal blood coming as a representative from the latter country. Of course those from the Netherlands will take a leading part in the parade, some of whom will man the Half Moon, which was built in Holland.

## MRS. FREDERICK A. COOK.

**Wife of Famous Explorer Who Discovered the North Pole.**

The wife of Dr. Frederick A. Cook, the discoverer of the north pole, has contributed her share to the success of her husband's great achievement. Dr. Cook showed sublime courage and determination in going over those dreary arctic wastes with only two Eskimo companions, but the wife and mother, who remained here uncomplainingly and suffered the keenest anxiety for months, also showed heroic courage.

Since the explorer went north Mrs. Cook has had other troubles aside from not knowing whether her husband was living, dead or dying. In the panic of 1907 she lost much money. She sold her home and on top of that had sickness to contend with. But her courage never deserted her,



MRS. FREDERICK A. COOK.

and never for a moment did she lose faith in her conviction that Dr. Cook would reach the pole. She encouraged the doctor in his most cherished hopes to make the discovery which has made him world famous.

When friends desponded of ever hearing from her husband Mrs. Cook replied, "I know that Fred lives and feel confident that we will hear from him before long." She endeavored to raise funds for a relief ship to go to his aid, but was unsuccessful.

The wife of the explorer was born in Camden, N. J. From 1896 to 1900 Mrs. Cook, who was Miss Marie Fidell, was employed as a stenographer in Philadelphia. She married in 1900 Dr. Willis H. Hunt of the Quaker City.

After the death of her husband Mrs. Hunt removed to Brooklyn. Her marriage to Dr. Cook savors somewhat of a romance, as about a year after settling in Brooklyn Dr. Cook was called in one night to attend her daughter for some slight illness. He fell in love with Mrs. Hunt and married her in 1902.

Dr. Cook first presented his wife to his associates of the Arctic club at a dinner at the Marlborough club, New York. Every arctic explorer or arctic exploring theorist was charmed by the tall, regal brunette of imperial bearing and gracious manners.