

BRAVING THE ICE.

Dr. Nansen Details His Plan for Drifting Across the Polar Regions.

THE LONG WINTER NIGHT

To Be Lightened by Electric Lamps Fed by a Wind Engine.

PROVISION AGAINST ACCIDENT.

Rathetic and Tragic Story of Suffering on Jan Mayen Island.

A JOURNAL UNDER THE HAND OF DEATH

DR. FRIDJOF NANSEN.

Dr. Fridjof Nansen, who proposes to be drifted across the North Polar region, lately read a paper detailing his plans before the Royal Geographical Society of London.

From Fall Mail Dudy's report I glean the interesting passages following. The illustration tells how he proposes to drift better than words can.

There were two methods of trying to obtain the result he longed for, said Dr. Nansen. First, build a strong ship so constructed that it could withstand the pressure of the ice, and, living in this ship, to take only boats along, encamp on an ice-ice, and live there while floating across.

His plan was based on the use of both these methods. He had now built a wooden ship as small and as strong as possible; it was

just big enough to carry provisions for 13 men for five or six years, but the necessary fuel; her size was about 600 tons displacement with light cargo.

She had an engine of 160 indicated horse-power, which would give her a speed of six knots, with a consumption of 2 1/2 tons of coal in 24 hours.

She would consequently be no fast vessel nor a good sailer; but this was of relatively little importance on such an expedition, where they would have to depend principally on the speed of the current and the ice movement, and not that of the ship.

Would Be Raised on the Ice. In further description of his vessel, he explained that it was so built that it was of a plump and rounded form, so as to leave no place for the ice to catch hold of, and, owing to her sloping sides, she would, in place of being crushed, be sprung by the ice until she rested upon her keel on its surface.

The vessel was launched at Laurvig on the 26th of October, and was named Fram, which meant "forward." Fram would certainly be the strongest vessel ever used in the Arctic regions.

He expected to reach the farthest possible point north in open water in August or September. When they could get no farther they would have nothing left but to run into the ice at the most favorable spot, and from there trust entirely to the current running across the Polar region.

The ice would, perhaps, soon begin to press, but it would only lift their strong ship. Probably they would, in this way, in the course of some years, be carried across the Pole, or near it and into the sea between Spitzbergen and Greenland, where they would get into open water again, and be able to return home.

Two Warm Saloons on the Ice. For this purpose he had built two big boxes 20 feet long, 9 feet broad, with flat bottoms, and so deep that they could sit and lie comfortably inside them.

The earlier you come the better you'll be pleased. Of course, the best are apt to go first. CASH OR CREDIT.

they should reach open water on this side of the Pole within two years after the start from the Siberian side. He could not, however, expect that the course would be one straight line during all this time; but when they took provisions for five or six years they had an ample margin.

Light From a Windmill. Dealing with equipment, Dr. Nansen said they would take dogs, sledges, "kay" and snowshoes, besides means for sledge traveling, while their scientific equipment would be chosen with the greatest care.

But even when there was no wind at all they would be able to produce power. The expedition would number 13 men, strong and well furnished, and a windmill was arranged on deck they would be able to do work similar to that which a horse did in its harness on land.

The French expedition sent out last summer on the little steamer Manche to collect specimens of natural history in Jan Mayen and Spitzbergen has recalled a story not told in well-known books of Arctic travel.

The bleak and barren island, 35 miles long, is about 300 miles north of the Arctic Circle, and nearly midway between ice and Spitzbergen. It was lifted above the sea in a past age by some tremendous volcanic eruption.

A House Untouched for Ten Years. Nearly ten years had elapsed since a human being had landed on the little island.

The voyagers on the Manche were greatly surprised when they landed in Marie Muss Bay and advanced into a valley somewhat sheltered from the winds, where they saw the little wooden building that had housed the Austrian Circum-Polar party for 13 months in 1883-84.

In an excavation under the house, which had served as a bathroom and a dark chamber for the photographer, were some bottles of wine, and the visitors drank it, well aware that this particular fruit of the vine was at least 10 years old.

Jan Mayen to-day with a similar supply of winter food could be predicted with certainty. A few live fowls and a dog were also landed with the sailors, besides a couple of small cannons.

Faithful Record of the Weather. At this time there were neither barometers nor thermometers, and yet the Dutch called this expedition a meteorological mission.

dam, which had large whaling interests in the Northern sea, determined to send a small party to Jan Mayen to pass the winter. Very little was known then of the long Arctic night, and the company desired to ascertain if it were feasible to winter whaling parties on Jan Mayen, where, in the spring, they would be in the neighborhood of their season's work.

On August 26, 1833, the seven sailors were landed on the island. The company had provided them with everything that was thought necessary for their comfort and well being. They had provisions in abundance, but unfortunately, the commissary supplies consisted largely of salt meat.

April was the fatal month. On April 3, only two of the seven sailors were able to get out of doors. The two last tows were killed and given to the men who were suffering most in the hope to restore a little of their strength.

May the Lord have mercy on his soul and upon us, for we are all very sick. The wind is blowing fresh from the East.

On April 23 this record appears in the journal: To-day no one is able to help himself excepting me. All the work of assisting others has now fallen upon me.

April 27—The day is damp. To-day we killed our dog to have a little fresh meat. It cannot help us much.

April 28—In the night the wind changed to the northeast.

tion of the wind and the condition of the sea. Their journal does not mention auroral phenomena. They, however, most faithfully carried out all the observations they were told to make.

It is worth while to correct a blunder which is to be found in many encyclopedias and books. The Dutch sailor, Jan Mayen, whose name was given to the island, was not its discoverer.

It is another case of Columbus and Amerigo Vesputi. The original discoverer was not honored in the name of the thing discovered.

A Clergyman Views Labor Questions From an Unusual Standpoint. At least one man has arisen who thinks that the grievances involved in the discussion of labor questions are mostly against the employers.

For one, I must confess that the abuses which have stirred me most profoundly of late have not been the sufferings and privations of the poor, but the false ideas of the rights aroused among them by the mistaken zeal of their friends.

April 29—The day is clear and sunshiny, with a strong wind from the northeast. I think I am drifting across the ice.

April 30—The day is clear and sunshiny, with a strong wind from the northeast. I think I am drifting across the ice.

So ends the record. The last day's entry is scarcely legible.

It was not until June 4 that the first of the whalers reached the island. If they had come a month earlier it is barely possible that they might have saved some of the wretched sailors.

Hudson First Found the Island. It is worth while to correct a blunder which is to be found in many encyclopedias and books.

Employers Harshly Judged. A Clergyman Views Labor Questions From an Unusual Standpoint.

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agents of important concerns or superintendents of large industries surrender to every demand of labor and pocket every effort, they are loudly applauded; while, if they stand firmly for their simple rights, they are savagely denounced.

There are organized bodies of laborers at this very moment claiming for themselves the right to drive all other workers from their occupation, and declaiming against the State militia and the police as their natural foes.

It makes no difference whether the poor favors upon the rich or the rich upon the poor; it is equally an evil. In the true order of society there will be no favoring anywhere; no terrified laborers toiling on starvation wages lest they lose their places.

Waver Gets All of Kansas' Vote. TOPEKA, KAN., Dec. 17.—The State Board of Canvassers to-day issued a certificate of election to Cabell, the Populist elector, whose election was contested on the ground of a clerical error.

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THE SMOKE MUST GO.

England Thinks She Has Found the Proper Way to Banish It.

RESULT OF A SCIENTIFIC TEST.

A Plan by Which the Weary Man Can Apply Himself With Ease.

BETTER TIMES IN THE BIG CITIES

(CORRESPONDENCE OF THE DISPATCH.)

LONDON, Dec. 9.—The new English invention for the consumption of smoke has been received with so much favorable criticism in England as to apparently have established its claim to be the most practical method yet devised for grappling with the smoke nuisance in cities burning bituminous coal.

The London Land, which appointed a special commission to test the claims and merits of the system, says: "The result is eminently satisfactory, and demonstrates clearly, not only the fuel-economizing effect of the system, but also that the production of soot is practically nil."

But the inhabitants of cities are now promised, not only an atmosphere practically smokeless, but a ready means of charging the air over a large area with oxygen.

CAUSE

The contractors who are putting up our new building adjoining our present one have notified us that they must have immediate possession of several floors on one side of our store so as to make connections between the two buildings.

The floors which must be cleared are filled with furniture. What to do with it we don't know, as much of our space is already occupied with Christmas Gifts.

Even our vast Carpet Department is crowded with furniture.

EASY CHAIRS. A complete line in Leather and Corduroy. Handsome Chairs in REAL LEATHER \$18 UP.

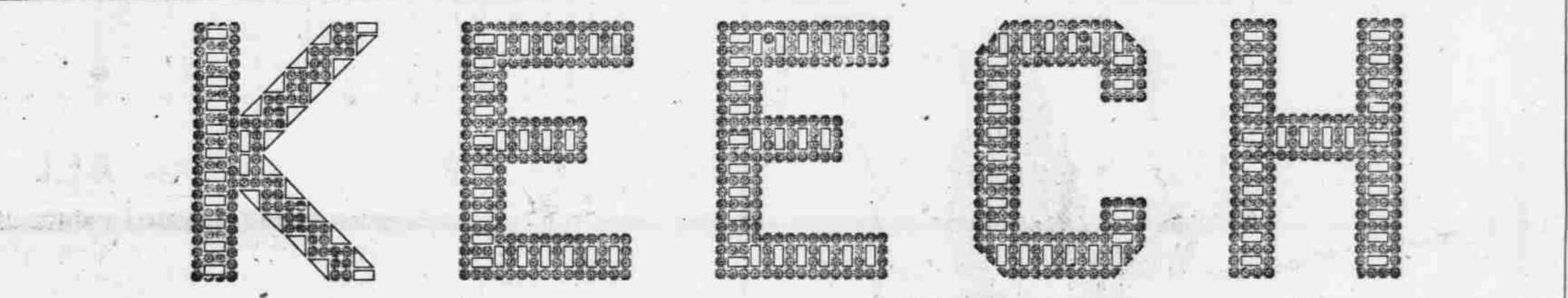
Store open each evening from now until Christmas until 9 o'clock.

The earlier you come the better you'll be pleased. Of course, the best are apt to go first.

CASH OR CREDIT.

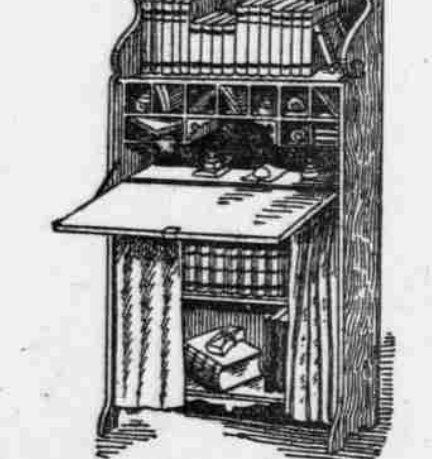
It might be possible that the current would not carry them exactly across the Pole, but it could not easily be very far off, and the principal thing was to explore the unknown polar regions, not to reach that mathematical point in which the axis of our globe had its northern termination.

It could not be considered improbable that

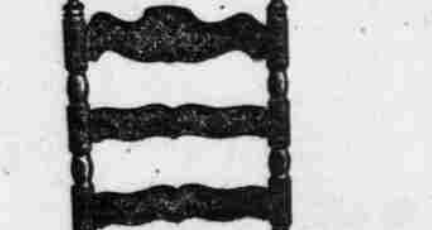


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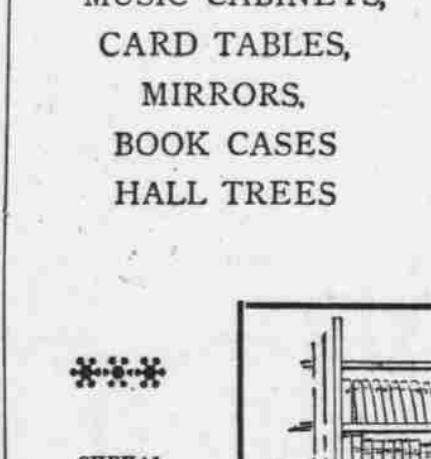
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CLOCKS, BRONZES, ONYX TABLES, SIDEBOARDS, CHIFFONIERS, PARLOR TABLES, COUCHES.



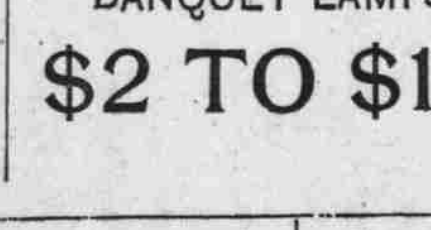
FANCY ROCKERS, EASY CHAIRS, LOUNGES, DIVANS, CENTER TABLES.



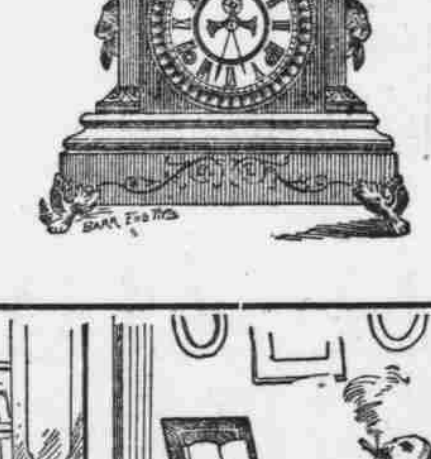
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THIS DESK \$3.



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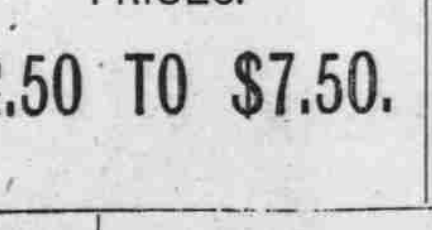
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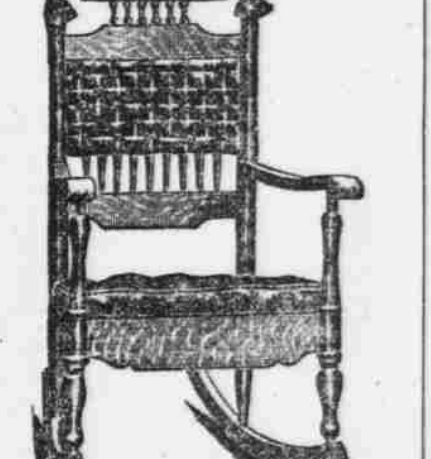
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