

SCIENTIFIC COMMISSION MAY SETTLE POLE DISPUTE

Fiala Says Peary's Story Bears Out Cook's Claim— Comment on Fact That Neither Explorer Had White Man With Him at Finish

New York, Sept. 12.—Little if any progress has been made toward settling the Peary-Cook controversy over the discovery of the North Pole, sentiment in this country and abroad strongly favors placing the whole matter before an unbiased scientific commission for decision. Until some action along this line is taken, the bitter personal war bids fair to spread.



Anthony Fiala

Dr. Cook's adherents are standing firm, producing everything at hand to Command Peary's discredit, while the Peary backers, encouraged by his repeated denunciation of Cook, acclaim the commander as the only discoverer of the pole and deny Cook to establish his right to the achievement.

Both from Germany and France there came yesterday recommendations for deciding the famous quarrel by scientific methods.

Wireless despatches last night told of Dr. Cook's homeward journey on the steamship Oscar II, gallily decorated in his honor. He mingled freely with the passengers and at luncheon related more of his experiences. The Oscar II is due in New York on Sept. 21.

Commander Peary, according to latest reports, is still in the vicinity of Battle Harbor, Labrador, where the Roosevelt is being repaired before her trip to Sydney (N. S.), where Mrs. Peary awaits him. Mrs. Cook remains in New York.

Scores of newspaper correspondents are awaiting Commander Peary's arrival at Sydney, where elaborate preparations have been made for his reception. In New York the Arctic Club of America is completing arrangements for a banquet to Dr. Cook on the evening of Thursday, Sept. 23, while the Hudson-Fulton commission congratulates itself on the prospect on having both explorers in New York during the celebration.

Fiala, the explorer, reiterated his confidence in Dr. Cook, saying that Peary's story tends to support rather than detract from the Brooklyn man's claims.

Heated discussions over the relative merits of the two explorers go on unabated throughout the United States and in Europe.

Bonne Bay, Nfld., Sept. 12.—After a run of 270 miles from Sydney (N. S.), the tug Thomas H. Douglas, chartered by the Associated Press, arrived at this port at 6 o'clock this (Sunday) morning and departed again at noon toward Battle Harbor, Labrador, to meet Commander Robert E. Peary on his ship, the Roosevelt.

The plans on leaving here were to stop at Point Roche, sixty-five miles up the Newfoundland coast, where there is a wireless station. The Douglas arrived here after a rough trip from Sydney and was forced to run at a reduced speed while entering this harbor. All Saturday night a high sea broke over the bow and stern of the tug, but while approaching the coast of this old British colony this morning the sun came out for a short while for the first time since leaving Sydney, at 1.30 a. m. Saturday morning.

Berlin, Sept. 11.—The news that Commander Peary also was accompanied by white observers when he reached the geographical point which he took to be the pole, has started the discussion afresh regarding the claims of Peary and Cook. German geographers, such as Gravelius, Hellman, Siegel, Suering and Friedrichs, have been through out believing the word of both Cook and Peary, as they had no reason to doubt the scientific competence or sincerity of either explorer.

Prof. H. Singer, writing in the Norddeutsche Allgemeine Zeitung says the scientific circles could not be deeply concerned whether the one or the other explorer took observations amid the field of

that showed the instruments to be located at the north pole, or which reached there first. Scientists may consider settled that both men with unwearied zeal have attained their aim. A more interesting subject, he adds, is that wide fields yet exist for polar explorers to register their work.

"The Americans have stormed the pole and planted their flag," he concludes, "now, as before, the most is still to be done."

Copenhagen, Sept. 12.—A remarkable letter, giving Dr. Frederick A. Cook's version of the trouble with Commander Peary over supplies, appears in the newspaper Heltkenn. The letter was written by Dr. Norman Hansen, a prominent Danish physician, who several times visited Greenland to study eye diseases, which he has made a speciality.

Dr. Cook practically told the same story to one of his closest American friends just a week before Commander Peary reappeared on the scene, but said that he did not intend to make it public because it might lead to unpleasantness. Dr. Hansen was with Cook at some time in Greenland and returned with him on the Danish government steamer Hansgede. In his letter he said:

"Now that Dr. Cook has gone, I am no longer under any obligation to keep silence and will exercise my right to publish the story about the house in Annatok, a story which Dr. Cook himself had too much delicacy to relate. I write it according to my memory, in the same manner that Dr. Cook in Egedesdam told it to me and I am fully convinced that in no details are my recollections wrong."

"Dr. Cook had built this house for stores in Annatok, north of Etah, and it was this depot which he started to reach in Feb. 19, 1908, after crossing the sound. It was a pretty large house, the walls being built of heavily filled provision boxes, so that Dr. Cook knew that when his important point was reached, everything was safe. He had, before the start, arranged with a young friend named Whitney, that he should have the right to use the house while hunting musk oxen for sport in the winter of 1908-9."

When Dr. Cook and his two Eskimos exhausted and half starved, came within a shot's distance of the house in Annatok young Whitney came out to bid him welcome, but inside the house was a stranger, a giant Newfoundland boatswain, on watch. This man had been placed in Dr. Cook's house by Peary, when the latter passed Etah with his ship bound north. Peary had given the boatswain a written order, which commenced with the following words: 'This house belongs to Dr. Frederick A. Cook, but Dr. Cook is long dead and there is no use to search after him. Therefore, I, Commander Robert E. Peary, install my boatswain in this deserted house.'

"This paper the boatswain, who could neither read nor write, exhibited to Dr. Cook and the latter took a copy of this wonderful document. This copy, however, he does not intend to publish if Peary's course does not force him to do so. Dr. Cook gave me a lively account of how the young millionaire, Mr. Whitney, during the whole winter, was treated like a dog by the giant boatswain and how he calmly witnessed the sailor bartering Dr. Cook's provisions for fox and bear skins for himself. Dr. Cook also had to put a good face on the unpleasant situation. He had to beg to get into his own house and had to make a compromise with the boatswain with strong fists."

"Dr. Cook made a present of the house with all its contents to his faithful Eskimo with the proviso that Whitney was to have the use of the house as long as his hunting trip lasted, but he was compelled to let the Newfoundland boatswain continue his watch."

The boatswain received strict orders not to exchange any of the provisions for the guns. Now I suppose the sailor will celebrate his triumphal entrance into New York harbor aboard Peary's ship, while Whitney, aboard his yacht, or perhaps he has not wanted to wait for his own boat and has gone aboard Peary's ship."

"To Mr. Whitney Dr. Cook gave his instruments and his observations as he thought these precious things were safer there than on the long sledge in the spring across Melville Bay, but all his note books and greasy and soiled record books, which have been so closely written upon, he kept and carried with him. Dr. Cook understands only a very little astronomy, the records written down so closely and in all directions, were very hard to read but what is the record to us? The two men, Peary and Cook, their character, their conduct, that is what interests us and every little item throwing a side light upon their natures is valuable."

The mayor of Inverness, the local member of parliament and many other men of standing vouched for Kennedy's good intentions and amateur standing, and he was reinstated.

The five-mile road race championship event was awarded to Sydney. It will take place at that city on May 25 next.

The executive committee will in future be composed of ten members from Nova Scotia and two from Cape Breton, an increase.

The election of officers was proceeded with L. J. McMillan, of Charlottetown, was elected senior vice-president, and A. W. Covey, of St. John, was elected junior vice-president.

The association would not let Secretary Meyers retire, in spite of the fact that his club, the St. Marys, has resigned. There is nothing in the constitution to prevent him being secretary, and it was considered that he could not be spared."

The treasurer, G. A. Gauvin, whose club had resigned, also was re-elected.

The election of the executive members was then proceeded with. The election of two Cape Breton representatives of the executive was left to the Cape Breton union. The other members are as follows: C. J. Kent, Truro; Wm. Ferguson, Steelation; P. C. Neville, Crescents, Halifax; A. McArthur, New Glasgow; A. H. Lantry, Amherst; W. B. MacCoy, N. W. A. C., Halifax; H. W. Hewitt, D. B. C., Dartmouth; J. C. Lithgow, Wanderers, Halifax; Bert. Garnham, Victorias, Charlottetown; J. H. Wran, Moncton.

A GEOGRAPHICAL ERROR.
The Financier—There is too much water in stocks.

The Colonel—That is due to your lack of foresight in not locating Wall Street down in Kentucky, where the limitations of water are more properly understood.

Toronto, Sept. 12.—(Special)—Lord Chas. Bessford was unable to be here Saturday to lay the corner stone of the monument to soldiers who fell in South Africa. The lieutenant governor officiated. Lord Charles sent an apology saying he was delayed in the woods near Temagami and could not catch the train.

ST. JOHN MAN AN M.P.A.A. OFFICIAL

A. W. Covey, Junior Vice President—Lithgow Retires—E. D. C. Admitted to Membership.

Halifax, Sept. 12.—At the annual meeting of the M. P. A. A. yesterday there was no friction and the rather stormy prospects for trouble did not result in anything worse than asking a few questions.

President Lithgow announced his intention of permanently retiring from the presidency. He regretted that Secretary Meyer and Treasurer Gauvin were both resigning, their club having withdrawn from the M. P. A. A. to join the new oarsmen's association.

Secretary Meyers said that this was the first time that he was unable to report on the annual sports, postponement having been considered necessary on account of the rain on Saturday. His report showed that twenty-six clubs are in affiliation with the M. P. A. A. The Every Day Club of St. John and the Swastikas of Windsor were seeking admittance.

In retiring, Mr. Meyers expressed hearty thanks for courtesies and assistance extended during his long term of office by the president, the executive and the clubs.

The application of the Every Day Club of St. John was accepted.

Joseph Kennedy, of Inverness, applied for reinstatement. Kennedy last year won the shot put in the M. P. A. A. sports. It was found that he had taken a small money prize at the Caledonia games in Boston when he was a mere boy. For this reason he was disqualified, the prize being awarded to the second man.

Affidavits were produced by Kennedy, showing that he had accepted the prize money in ignorance of the result it would have on his future athletic career. A cash prize he had won later had been returned by him.

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St. John, N. B. Maritime Representative

MARITIME PRESS ASSOCIATION OFFICERS

Amherst, Sept. 10.—The business sessions of the Maritime Press Association were brought to a close this morning. The officers of the new association were elected, and the members had the pleasure of listening to a very able address by J. F. McKay, of the Toronto Globe, president of the Canadian Press Association. The officers elected are president, A. R. Coffin, Truro; vice-presidents, Nova Scotia, A. F. MacDonald, Halifax; New Brunswick, J. L. Stewart, Chatham; P. E. Island, James Melsaac, Charlottetown; secretary-treasurer, Fred E. Cox, Middleton; corresponding secretary, J. E. Malaney, Woodstock; executive, Armstrong, Sussex; J. T. Hawke, Moncton; Mrs. P. M. Fielding, Windsor (N. S.); D. F. McLean, Port Hood; R. L. Cotton, Charlottetown.

THE YOUNG KING OF PORTUGAL

Manuel a Genial Youth of Ability—To Visit London.

An active, good-humored, very vital young man is the impression given by Dom Manuel, the 19-year-old king of Portugal, who is expected to visit this country in November, says the London Daily Mail. The comprehensive and strenuous education considered necessary for his exalted position has not dulled the ready wit which he inherited from Queen Amelia, and he also shares her open-air tastes spending a good part of his leisure in tennis, fencing and riding. He has, moreover, artistic accomplishments, being both a musician and a painter.

Before the tragic events that brought him to the throne he was being educated as a sailor and threw himself eagerly into the study of modern science and mathematics and the technicalities of naval construction.

Two years ago, therefore, his outlook on life was rather the sailor's than the king's and a very strenuous course of study was mapped out for him. It included, according to a writer in the Xua, philosophy, political science, and the physical sciences.

He arose at seven every morning and studied Plato and Greek philosophy for an hour before he went to breakfast in his mother's apartments. The morning from ten to noon was devoted to astronomy, inorganic chemistry and general science, and the afternoon from one to four to history and jurisprudence. In the evenings he relaxed into music and less serious literature, retiring to bed at nine. This course of study was pursued for months with scarcely any interruption.

He has displayed an unusual aptitude for mathematics and speaks Spanish, French and Italian fluently. The thesis he submitted for his doctor's degree at the university displayed a very creditable knowledge of the history of Portuguese literature.

On account of the dangers that hedged his throne his education was conducted in the palace and its scheme was not very generally understood, and consequently misrepresented. It was apprehended that he was being trained as a student and recluse rather than as a king. Not long ago, therefore, he visited the University of Coimbra and was received in state by the professors and uproariously by the students. The latter removed the horses

from his carriage at the station and dragged him through the streets with enthusiastic cheering until, carried away by their excitement, he alighted and joined them on foot. In the degree hall he conversed with the rector in Latin, showed such an extensive knowledge of contemporary science and criticised a dissertation on ethical philosophy with an astuteness that quickly brought the critics of his education to confusion. One of the most pleasing features of his life is the close companionship between him and his tragically widowed mother, Queen Amelia. In his childhood he used to rise at 6 every morning and read poetry and art criticisms to her while she painted till breakfast time. The weeks he lay ill after the assassination of his father and brother she nursed him assiduously, performing all that he needed done for him with her own hands.

The habit of breakfasting together is still kept up, and the young king spends his evenings in her company.

The following anecdote shows the closeness of the friendship between them and also the graceful repartee in which he excels. When during his training for the navy he was anxious to return to Lisbon to continue his studies, Queen Amelia asked him, somewhat piqued, why he was so eager to leave her.

"Because if I do not leave you at once I shall be unable to leave you at all," he quoted prettily from one of her favorite poets.

He is quite a sportsman and is very fond of dogs. A Danish boarhound, Box, and a terrier, Tagus, are his principal pets.

THE BOYS' IDEA.

The Preacher (winding up his remarks to boys)—Remember, my boy, that the worm will turn at last.

The Boy (who has been fishing)—It has to, mister, or else it won't fit the hook.

MINGLED FEELINGS
(The New Freeman.)

The appointment of John Kenney, Jr., to the office of factory inspector, made vacant by the retirement of Capt. John McMullin, will be received with mingled feelings of satisfaction and disappointment.

Mr. Kenney will make a competent official, and is a man who deserves well of his party, but quite a number of people are of the opinion that Capt. McMullin should have been allowed to continue for another year at any rate. It would have been a graceful act on the part of the government, and one that would have been very popular, especially among Capt. McMullin's friends.

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February, -	6,978
March, -	7,165
April, -	7,189
May, -	7,003
June, -	7,029
July, -	7,028

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