

speed seemed appreciably to decrease on the last round and before he reached the final turn the stop watches showed that he had lost. The French crowds were greatly disappointed but largely owing to the popularity of the Wrights in France and the general French recognition of the wonderful stimulus Americans have given to the science of aviation, no foreign victory could have been so popular as that of an American. They immediately ran up the flag on the signal pole on the time keepers' stand in front of the tribunes and the bands played 'The Star Spangled Banner.' There was great rejoicing among the American spectators."

ALL THE world was interested in a dispatch that went over the wires September 1 from Dr. Frederick A. Cook. This message was sent to Dr. Cook's wife in Brooklyn, N. Y., and read: "Successful, well. Addressed Copenhagen." Another dispatch from Dr. Cook received by the Brussels observatory read: "Reached North Pole April 21, 1908. Discovered land far north. Returned to Copenhagen by steamer Hans Egede. Signed Frederick Cook." A Copenhagen cablegram carried by the Associated Press says: "That Dr. Frederick A. Cook, the American explorer, reached the north pole in his expedition which has just ended, was given full credence here, although details are lacking of his intrepid dash across the ice. A message was received at the colonial office here this morning, via Lerwick, Shetland islands, announcing that Dr. Cook had reached the pole April 21, 1908. The dispatch was sent by a Greenland official on board the Danish government steamer Hans Egede, which passed Lerwick at noon today en route for Denmark, and read as follows: 'We have on board the American traveler, Dr. Cook, who reached the North Pole April 21, 1908. Dr. Cook arrived at Upernivik in May of 1909 from Cape York. The Esquimaux of Cape York confirm Dr. Cook's story of his journey.' It is understood that the Danish consul at Lerwick, where the Hans Egede remained for two hours, was officially notified by Dr. Cook's success in his attempt to reach the pole, but that he was bound to secrecy concerning the extent and nature of the explorer's discoveries. Director Ryberg head of the Greenland administration bureau, said tonight that he did not expect to receive any further details of Dr. Cook's achievement before the arrival of the Hans Egede at this port, which probably would be Saturday afternoon. The vessel will make no stops on the voyage from Lerwick to Copenhagen. Director Ryberg proceeded to the American legation and informed the minister, Dr. Maurice F. Egan, that Dr. Cook had reached the North Pole. The announcement caused the greatest enthusiasm throughout the city and many Americans called at the legation to congratulate the minister. Among these was Alexander Kouta of New York, a warm personal friend of Dr. Cook, who said that he had believed the explorer had perished long ago. The legation was overcrowded with visitors tonight. The noted explorer, Commander Hovgaard, leader of various north pole expeditions, was convinced that the message that Dr. Cook had reached the pole was true, but remarked that it was strange that no mention was made in the cable as to whether or not there is land at the pole."

TWO WEEKS ago a relief expedition sailed northward for the purpose of locating Dr. Cook and his party, it being feared they were lost. Frederick Albert Cook, physician and explorer, is a native of New York. He was surgeon of the Peary Arctic expedition in 1891 and surgeon of the Belgian Antarctic expedition in 1897 and 1899. He led the expeditions to explore and climb Mount McKinley in 1903 and 1906. He is president of the Explorers' club of New York and author of several works on polar exploration. Dr. Cook is 43 years old. The Associated Press gives the recent efforts to locate the North Pole as follows: "Lieutenant Peary, April 21, 1906, was 203 miles from the pole; Ronald Amundsen discovered northwest passage, June to September, 1905; Duke d'Abuzzi was within 238 miles of the pole in 1900; Erickson, a Dane, rescued on Saunders land in 1903; Professor Andree left Tromsø, Norway, in a balloon in 1897, never heard from afterward; Baron Tall and party, perished north of Siberia in 1904; Dr. Nansen in the Fram penetrated within 261 miles on April 7, 1895; the Greeley expedition penetrated to within less than 500 miles of the pole in 1882; Anthony

Fiala, in 1903, came nearer than the Duke d'Abuzzi."

MAURICE F. EGAN, United State minister at Copenhagen, has telegraphed the American state department that Dr. Cook's reported discovery of the North Pole has been verified by Dergaard Jensen, the Danish inspector of North Greenland. Nikola Tesla, the famous scientist, has made the following statement concerning the alleged discovery of the North Pole: "That the announcement of Dr. Cook should find such a powerful echo is but natural. This country was always keenly alive to scientific advancement and has contributed more than its share to the progress of discovery and invention. Here were successively developed the telephone, the incandescent lamp, the electric transmission of power, the electric railway, electric welding, the aluminum process, the modern press, wireless art and numerous improvements of the greatest importance. Dr. Cook's achievement adds another to the many honors America has already won. As an example of endurance and energy it is extraordinary. To undertake such a journey even under the most favorable conditions must be fraught with the greatest dangers and difficulties. To embark on it in mid-winter with but a few men and the scantiest resources and to live through it is little short of miraculous. It is difficult to estimate the consequences of Dr. Cook's exploit, but if one is to follow the promptings of scientific intuition they will be far reaching in geographical and astronomical observation if nothing else." That the flag planted by Dr. Cook on the new Arctic continent will be defended by the United States was the opinion expressed by Attorney General Wickersham in an interview at Lawrence Beach, L. I., his summer home. "The constitution will follow the flag if the new land discovered by Cook proves to be of any value," said Mr. Wickersham. "The new territory may perhaps not prove to be a very valuable acquisition, but if human being can live there, or if there are native races living there, a serious question of citizenship will have to be considered. However, before taking any position in the matter I prefer to wait for information of a little more definite character in regard to the exact meaning and scope of Dr. Cook's discovery."

SOME OF THE newspaper editors are disposed to poke fun at the North Pole enthusiasts. The Lincoln (Neb.) Journal prints this editorial: "Suppose it is true that Dr. Cook has set his heel on the axle of the earth, that the point where latitude ends, whence dangle all the lines of longitude, has at last been discovered. What of it? Is man and the world any better off for the feat? Originally there was a tangible object in northward adventure. There was the northwest passage, the long sought short cut to India, to be found. Only four years ago this was really found by Amundsen, and of course is so blocked with perpetual ice as to be useless. But the pole was known in advance not to be worth a sou. Yet money and life have been poured out freely to buy the bauble. The thirty-seven relief expeditions sent after Sir John Franklin, cost something like five million dollars, and the Franklin expedition lost every life, 138 officers and men. For half a century past there has hardly been a year without its polar expedition and its tribute of human life to that object. Was it worth while? Measured by cash dividends on the investment the answer is, it was not worth while. There have been some material gains. Incidentally to these efforts new whaling fields have been discovered and made available. Mineral deposits that may eventually be of value have been found. But compared with the material gains of Columbus' dash to the west, or of Stanley's pathfinding in Africa the polar gains are insignificant. It is in the less tangible but more real moral account that the profits of polar research appear in plentitude. Man is man and not monkey because he could not take a dare. His inability to rest in the presence of the unknown sent him across Europe, over the Atlantic, through Africa, into the air, and toward the poles. Each achievement inspired to greater. The fact that men kept throwing themselves against the ice pack is a sign that the human soul is still growing. Were they to sit supinely with the northern blizzards mocking their impotence we should know that man had reached his zenith and was starting back. The discovery of the pole, like

the conquest of the air, the two-minute horse, or the discovery of radium is essentially a soul victory, rich in moral spoils."

AS THOUGH in reply to the skeptical newspaper men, Dr. Edwin S. Huston, scientist and author, of Philadelphia, says: "I have always been of the opinion that the northern regions of the world are by no means useless from a commercial standpoint. Many of us will doubtless yet see the hyperborean or under north Boreas regions carefully cultivated, as it were, for the ivory of walrus, the eiderdown of various arctic birds and probably, if deep waters are found, for the cultivation of the whale and fur seal."

THE NORTH POLE discovery is the sensation of the age. Associated Press dispatches of September 6 say: "Peary has succeeded! Stars and stripes nailed to the north pole. From out the Arctic darkness there was flashed this message which stunned the scientific world and thrilled the heart of every layman. From the bleak coast of Labrador Peary gave to the world the news that he had attained his goal in the far north, while at the same moment, in far-off Denmark, Dr. Frederick A. Cook of Brooklyn was being dined and lionized by royalty for the same achievement. Undeniably Yankee grit has conquered the frozen north, and there has been created a coincidence such as the world will never see again. Two Americans have planted the flag of their country in the land of ice, which man has sought to penetrate for four centuries, and each ignorant of the other's conquest, has flashed within a period of five days a laconic message of success to the waiting world. Cook in his first message to his countrymen was brief but non-committal; Peary was even briefer, but specific. 'Stars and stripes nailed to the north pole,' he said. That was all, but never before have so few words conveyed to a people a greater meaning or a greater satisfaction. Five days ago, on September 1, Dr. Cook sent out from the Shetland Islands the first message of his success—a message which has aroused a storm of controversy around the world. Today Robert E. Peary, lost from view in the land of ice and unheard from since August, 1908, has startled the world by a similar message sent from Indian harbor, Labrador. There was no qualification; it left no doubt. It announced unequivocally that he had reached the top of the world. Thus two flags with the stars and stripes of the United States are floating in the ice packs, proving the courage of the intrepid Americans."

THE FOLLOWING dispatches were sent by Peary: "Indian Harbor, via Cape Ray, Sept. 6.—To the Associated Press, New York: Stars and stripes nailed to north pole.—Peary." "Indian Harbor, via Cape Ray, Sept. 6.—Herbert L. Bridgman, Brooklyn, N. Y.: Pole reached. Roosevelt safe.—Peary." "Indian Harbor, via Cape Ray, N. F., Sept. 6.—To the New York Times, New York: I have the pole April 6. Expect to arrive Chateau Bay September 7. Secure control wire for me there and arrange to expedite transmission big story.—Peary." "Indian Harbor, via Cape Ray, Sept. 9, 1909.—Mrs. R. E. Peary, South Harpswell, Me.: Have made good at last. I have the old pole. All well. Love. Will wire again from Chateau.—Bert." In replying Mrs. Peary sent the following dispatch: "South Harpswell, Me., Sept. 6, 1909.—Commander R. E. Peary, Steamer Roosevelt, Chateau Bay: All well. Best love. God bless you. Hurry home.—Jo."

REPRESENTING THEMSELVES

There is something fundamentally wrong in any legislative system in which the legislators represent themselves instead of their constituents. In the United States senate men having large pecuniary interests in railroads serve on the railroad committee. Men financially interested in tariff schedules act on committees which fix tariff rates and men largely interested in banks formulate the laws governing banking. Can these men be expected to act fairly and impartially? How can the plain people expect to have their rights respected and their interests guarded so long as public opinion permits legislators to act upon questions in which they have a pecuniary interest adverse to their constituents. We will not allow a judge to try his own case. Why allow a senator to vote money into his own pocket?