

COOK'S ATTORNEY SEEMS IN DOUBT

Henry Wellington Wack Has Dropped Explorer as His Client, Says Friend.

BOUGHT FIGURES CITED

Lawyer Hints Doctor May Have Secured Navigator's Observations to Check His Own—Just Wait, Is Urged.

NEW YORK, Dec. 9.—Dr. F. A. Cook's personal lawyer, Henry Wellington Wack, has severed relations with his client. Mr. Wack refused tonight to confirm or deny his withdrawal, but it can be affirmed on competent authority that, after consultation with his partners, Mr. Wack wrote Dr. Cook as far back as November 29 that he must beg him to seek legal advice elsewhere.

"I have not the remotest idea," said Mr. Wack tonight, "where Dr. Cook is keeping himself. He is a man who is in seclusion when his presence is vital to his own interests and his friends'. I heard that he is in Brooklyn, in a sanitarium in Maine, in a Philadelphia asylum, but personally I incline to the belief that he is abroad."

Affidavits Are Cited.

"One thing, however, is certain—there is agreement tonight, for the first time, among those who have always believed that Dr. Cook discovered the North Pole, those who have never believed and those who have been waiting to be informed on disinterested authority. Partisans and skeptics alike now concede certain cardinal facts which admit of no argument, namely: Dr. Cook has sent his records to the University of Copenhagen for the inspection of a commission, two men, one a broker who says he acted as a go-between, and one a skilled navigator, have sworn that they supplied the doctor with a complete set of fabricated observations, covering his trip northward step by step to the pole, in agreement with his narrative as originally published. These sworn statements carry within themselves their own proof of disproof.

"That is to say, if the papers now in the hands of the University of Copenhagen contain any considerable portion of the real observations which Captain August Loose says he worked out, by the reverse route, no further north than the Gramatan Inn, in Brooklyn, N. Y., the deduction is that Dr. Cook felt no confidence in the adequacy of his own proofs.

Observations May Be Check.

"If, on the contrary, the Copenhagen records show that Dr. Cook made no evident use of the calculations Captain Loose says he supplied, it will be fair to assume that he accepted them only as checks on his own data. The inquiry will then revert to its first status: Are the original observations of Dr. Cook sufficient?"

Asked flatly if he had or had not withdrawn from Dr. Cook's affairs, Mr. Wack said:

"This is not the time for an announcement. It might be thought I had deserted Dr. Cook in his need. He may be delirious in a sanitarium or on the ocean, unable to defend himself."

A close friend of Mr. Wack reiterated, however, that Mr. Wack had long ago decided to close dealings with a client who did not keep his counsel informed of his intentions or movements.

Mrs. Cook Writes.

Mrs. Wack received a letter from Mrs. Cook, December 6, dated December 4, and posted December 5 in Brooklyn, asking him to discontinue all expenses on the doctor's account, and to forward certain papers, which Mr. Wack understood to be affidavits bearing on the doctor's disputed ascent of Mount McKinley. These affidavits the doctor had originally intended to take with him to Europe, where they could be available for the University of Copenhagen, if desired.

Others of Dr. Cook's friends granted tonight that Captain Loose consulted freely with him and even occupied rooms adjoining him at the Gramatan Inn. Whether this propinquity served as an opportunity for co-operation merely, or for collusion, is a point on which not even Captain Loose cares to pronounce positively. The captain, however, went freely into his own motives this afternoon.

"I went to Dr. Cook," he said, "thinking I could help him. A short talk convinced me he was ignorant of some of the essentials of navigation. My task enlarged, but that was no question for me to debate. I was paid \$2000 for the doctor's disappearance. I speak out, the doctor has disappeared. They were grateful. What use was made of them is bound to appear.

"I never expected when I approached him to do such extended work as I have done. A short talk with Dr. Cook convinced me he knew almost nothing about navigation. He was ignorant of some of the essentials of the science.

Cook's Records Not Seen.

"At first I considered it at least likely that Dr. Cook had got near to the pole, say to 89 degrees, or within 60 miles of the pole. Even his observations would have given him that accuracy. Later I was forced to change my opinion.

"A person not especially accurate might have thought himself at the pole when only within 60 miles of it. When I got deeper into the case I began to suspect that Dr. Cook was never out of sight of land.

"Please notice that I have never said that Dr. Cook is about to submit my calculations to the University of Copenhagen as his own observations. Dr. Cook never intimates such a thing, and I am working for pay, and was indifferent to that point. Now, I have not received my pay. I don't express an opinion about how or when Dr. Cook wrote his record books. Dr. Cook never allowed me to inspect his original records, or, indeed, any more of them than has been published in the newspaper.

"Captain Loose said the writing down of records in Dr. Cook's reports of his observations did not show a skillful attempt to deceive." The limits of records were so great that the recording of seconds would not be of the slightest value in adding accuracy, declared the captain.

"Still, of course," he added, "Dr. Cook could have looked at his instruments, seen the seconds and put them down conscientiously, if in ignorance of their lack of importance."

Kansas Liquor Men Indicted.

KANSAS CITY, Dec. 9.—Fifty indictments were returned by the grand jury against wholesale liquor dealers charging them with having violated the new law requiring wholesalers and manufacturers of liquors to pay a graduated tax to the state.

PHOTOGRAPHS SHOWING HOW DR. COOK, NOW ASSAILED AS FRAUD, WAS HONORED UPON HIS RETURN HOME FROM NORTH.



DR. COOK AND MRS. COOK ON STEAMER, SURROUNDED BY ADMIRERS.



Photos, copyright 1909 by George Grantham Bain. DR. COOK AT PUBLIC RECEPTION ACCORDED HIM.

PROOFS NOT FULL

Leading People of Portland Reserve Opinions.

ACCUSERS' CHARACTER BAD

Admissions of Loose and Dunkle Discredit Them, Say Some—Both Explorers Doubted—Joselyn Stands By Cook.

Portland people generally have decided to suspend judgment as to the merits of the Peary-Cook controversy until the records of the two explorers have finally been passed upon by scientific experts. This disposition was manifested yesterday when The Oregonian requested interviews from a number of prominent business and professional men as to their opinion of the published report that Dr. Cook had bribed George H. Dunkle and Captain August W. Loose to supply him with faked astronomical observations as a part of the records on which he expects to prove the discovery of the North Pole by himself.

Both Peary and Cook have partisans in Portland and many a household has found itself hopelessly divided in attempting to settle the controversy. Charges and counter-charges of bribery and deception have furnished the subject for so many newspaper and magazine stories that the average citizen finds himself more confused and uncertain in his own mind than was immediately after the first announcements of the Pole discovery by both men. For this reason many declined to express themselves yesterday who had positive opinions on the subject a few weeks ago.

Charges Open to Doubt.

The following opinions were expressed yesterday on the latest charge of bribery perferred against Cook by Dunkle and Loose:

Circuit Judge Gantenbein—I have made up my mind to reserve a decision as to the merits of the Peary-Cook controversy until the records of both have been examined by scientific experts.

Dr. J. B. Westerbe, president Portland Commercial Club—The allegations of Dunkle and Loose do not look reasonable to me from the evidence that has been produced. However, I am open to conviction. It does not seem to me that any man would spend two years of his life in the polar regions, enduring the hardships attendant on such an expedition, just for the purpose of faking.

Circuit Judge Bronaugh—There has been so much controversy over the discovery of the North Pole in the newspapers and magazines that I have not undertaken to form any definite conclusion as to the real merits. I shall wait until the reports of Peary and Cook have been investigated by scientific experts before passing an opinion.

Dr. W. H. Foulkes—While I must admit that I have been somewhat suspicious of Cook throughout the controversy, the charge which has been made by Dunkle

and Loose does not determine the issue in any sense. Men who admit having done such things as these two men have confessed not only stultify themselves but also discredit the cause they seek to strengthen. This circumstance undoubtedly will result in making the investigation of Cook's records all the more rigid as to their genuineness.

Give Cook Benefit of Doubt.

Dr. Luther R. Dyott—In this case, as in all such matters, the public should suspend judgment until all of the facts are known. The character of the man making the charges that Dunkle and Loose have made should also be taken into consideration. I would be inclined to give Dr. Cook the benefit of every doubt under the circumstances, until those prepared to pass on the question shall go decidedly against him in their findings.

Sanderson Reed—I am yet to be convinced that either Peary or Cook actually reached the North Pole. Fabrications are to be found in the published statements of both of these men. To my mind, the representations of Peary and a negro should not carry any more weight than do the contentions of Cook and an Eskimo. These charges of bribery and other faking only serve to furnish subject for gossip and in no manner affect the real merits of the controversy.

Joselyn Believes Cook.

B. S. Joselyn, president of the Portland Railway, Light & Power Company—I will believe Cook is all that he represents himself to be until he is proven otherwise. I do not give credit to the charges made against him. My reason for believing in Cook is that I have heard so much about him through a close friend of mine, who knows him, and who declares he is an honest man.

County Judge Webster—I take no stock whatever in the latest charge against Dr. Cook, and, besides, the Dunkle-Loose story should not be allowed in any way to influence the merits of the controversy between the two explorers. The only way to judge either Peary or Cook is by a thorough examination of the records each has submitted in support of his contention. If any part of the records of Dr. Cook has been faked, it will be discovered from such an investigation by competent judges.

"The Peary-Cook controversy reminds me of a good story I received today in a letter from a Washington friend," said Dr. J. Whitcomb Brougher, who was among those declining to be interviewed. "A little negro, who was offering two kittens for sale, was approached by an inquisitive but prospective purchaser. 'What are the kittens' names?' inquired the caller. 'They ain't got no names,' was the answer. 'Why don't you call them Peary and Cook?' suggested the questioner. 'Oh, s'won, they ain't polecats,' came back the youthful owner."

NOBEL PRIZES GIVEN OUT

Marconi Gets Division of \$40,000 Award for Physics.

LONDON, Dec. 9.—This year's Nobel prizes of \$40,000 each will be distributed as follows:

For physics, divided between Mr. Marconi and Professor Ferdinand Braun, of Strasburg; for chemistry, Professor Wilhelm Ostwald, of Leipzig; for physiology or medicine, Professor Theodore Kocher, of Berne; for literature, Selma Lagerlof, the Swedish authoress.

DENMARK FOR COOK

Rector of University Calls Charges "Fiction."

SECRETARY IS INDIGNANT

"Totally Unfounded," Says Man to Whom Dr. Cook Dictated Report From Observations Taken at Pole, Now in Copenhagen.

(Continued From First Page.)

there is no question that his proofs will be accepted.

Postmaster Campbell—I have read the Cook story of today in part only, and would say that the charges perhaps warrant an investigation at least. It can easily be learned whether the story is true or not, it seems to me, though I am not familiar with the details.

Municipal Judge Maxwell—The statements of the two men are not reasonable. I cannot conceive of Dr. Cook doing as the men state, were he in his right mind. It seems like a "fake," but developments will clear the whole thing.

Municipal Judge Wells—I read the affidavits of the two men and immediately came to this conclusion: If there is any truth in what they say, then they know what Cook's report contains. Let them make this public before some society, and the truth of their statements can easily be arrived at.

Edwin W. Sims, United States District Attorney—The affidavits of the two men will give them a standing in court. I think an investigation is warranted by what they say. Whether their statements are based on facts or are a part of a plot to discredit the explorer, it can be learned without great difficulty.

Mark A. Foote, United States Commissioner—I am for the cause, I think many others, that the statements of the two men will not bear investigation. It looks like a bold attempt to discredit the Brooklyn physician and to rob him of his credit due for his dash to the Pole.

Municipal Judge Newcomer—The affidavits bear all the earmarks of a "fake" pure and simple. Cook is too smart a man and has had too much experience to trump up a deal, especially since the two men were strangers to him.

LOOSE PROVED TO BE WRONG

Survivor of Greeley Expedition Says His Astronomy Is Not Right.

SAN JOSE, Cal., Dec. 9.—That the statement reported to be contained in affidavits sworn to by Dunkle and Loose and published by the New York Times cannot be given credence by people who have lived in Arctic regions is the belief of Maurice Connell of this city, a survivor of the Greeley expedition. Connell says: "It is said that this ex-navigator, Loose, swears 'That having the basis of an observation of the star Capella, he warned Dr. Cook that his narrative must say the star rose at 4 o'clock on the morning of January 16.'"

"That star Capella neither sets nor rises during the Arctic night. Its northern declination is about 46 degrees. Stars with a northern declination of more than 22 degrees never rise nor set anywhere within the Arctic Circle. They revolve around the polar star, just as circumpolar stars in this latitude do."

Court to Convene at St. Helens.

ASTORIA, Or., Dec. 9.—(Special.)—Judge Eakin will convene an adjourned session of the Circuit Court, at St. Helens, on

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RAINCOATS AND OVERCOATS

FOR MEN AND BOYS



We have received by express this week a lot of NEW STYLES—different in FABRIC and PATTERNS from those sold earlier in the season. If you want the LATEST and BEST it will be to your interest to come to this store of GOOD VALUES, where MODEST PRICES always prevail.

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BEN SELLING LEADING CLOTHIER

next Monday morning, and three civil cases are set for trial before juries during the week.

Expert Will Decide on Early.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 9.—John R. Early, twice imprisoned and quarantined here

as a "leper," went to the Rockefeller Institute for medical research in New York, today, where he will be examined by Dr. Simon Flexner. Dr. Flexner's decision as to whether Early has leprosy will be accepted as final by the Washington health department. In return for his freedom, Early's attorney announced

that Early would drop his damage suit against Washington health officers for false imprisonment.

Miss Ivy E. Woodward has been admitted to full membership in the Royal College of Physicians of London. This is the first time that the coveted M. R. C. P. has been conferred upon a woman.

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