

NEARER TO THE NORTH POLE

Dr. Nansen Advanced Further Than Previous Explorers.

HE AND PARTY SAFE AND WELL

Dr. Nansen Has Been Gone Over Three Years Now, and His Expedition Is a Great Success—He Will Soon Return.

Malmö, Sweden, Aug. 17.—The newspaper Dagens Nyheter has received communications from Dr. Nansen and Lieutenant Shottansen, from the island of Vardo. These communications state that they abandoned the Fram in the autumn of 1895 and resorted to ice.

The steamer Windward, carrying supplies to the Jackson-Harmsworth expedition, picked them up near Franz Josef land. They expected that the Fram would eventually drift to the east coast of Greenland. Dr. Nansen failed to reach the pole, but he touched a point four degrees nearer than any other explorer has done.

The steamer Windward took letters for Nansen when it started to the relief of the Jackson-Harmsworth expedition, as Mr. Jackson expected to find Nansen, and was convinced that his idea of drifting across the pole in the ice was impracticable. He was also convinced that Nansen would return in the direction of Franz Josef land.

All in Good Health.

Vardoe, Norway, Aug. 17.—Dr. Nansen left the Fram on March 14, 1895, in 83 deg. of north latitude. He traversed the polar sea to a point 86:14 north latitude, situated north of the North Siberia islands. No land was sighted north of 82 deg. of latitude or thence to Franz Josef land, where he passed the winter, subsisting on bear flesh and whale blubber.

Dr. Nansen and his companions are in the best of health. The Fram is expected at Vardoe or Bergen shortly. She stood the ice well. There were no sick persons aboard when Nansen left her.

(Dr. Fritjojo Nansen, the Norwegian scientist, now 36 years old, sailed from Christiania on June 24, 1893, on a voyage of discovery to the arctic regions, and with the intention of reaching the north pole, if possible. He embarked on board the three-masted schooner Fram, which was provided with a 160-horsepower steam engine. She was of 800 tons burden, and her sides were so constructed as to force all ice meeting the vessel to pass under it, thus preventing all "pinching" and sawing.)

The Fram was launched at Laurwik, near Christiania, October 26, 1892, and the Norwegian parliament gave Dr. Nansen about \$52,000 in aid of his expedition. Additional funds were forthcoming by private subscription, including one of over \$5,000 from King Oscar.

The Fram was in every way admirably equipped, and had a crew of twelve men, all of whom occupied the cabin, which measured only thirteen feet square, and which was heated by means of an English petroleum stove, which consumed three liters of petroleum a day. The Fram (forward) had enough fuel on board to last eight or nine years, and she also had a library of 1,000 books.

Dr. Nansen's plan was to make for the New Siberia islands and thence sail directly north until the Fram should be imbedded in the ice. He proposed then to drift along with the ice, following the west coast of any land that might be met. A dispatch was received from him at Vardien, August 23, 1895, written in the Yugoslian straits on the second day of that month, announcing that the expedition was about to sail into Kara sea, and that the Fram, so far, had behaved splendidly.

Dr. Nansen entered the university of Christiania in 1880, and in 1882 went as a passenger on the sailing steamer Viking to Denmark straits and the east coast of Greenland. It is believed that this voyage laid the foundation for the ambition of his life, namely, that of discovering the north pole. On his return from Greenland he was appointed curator of the museum at Bergen, and held that position until 1888, when he led a small expedition to Greenland and crossed the southern portion of that country from the east coast to Godhead, on the west coast, where the party wintered, and returned to Norway in June, 1889.)

A Serious Accident.

Astoria, Or., Aug. 17.—Henry Johnson, an employe at Logan's Seaside sawmill, was terribly lacerated yesterday while filing a circular saw. The machinery was started up without warning, and Johnson was caught by the clothing and thrown over the saw. A bystander, with great presence of mind grasped a knife and severed the belt, thus saving Johnson from being cut to pieces. The injured man was removed to his residence and medical aid summoned. It was found that the right arm was badly cut below the shoulder, the left above and below the elbow, and the right leg at the knee was torn in a shocking manner. It is thought Johnson's wounds will not prove fatal.

DOWN TO HARD PAN.

Rough Experience of Miners Seeking Gold in Alaska.

Port Townsend, Wash., Aug. 17.—The steamship City of Topeka arrived this morning from Alaska with 185 passengers, forty of whom were miners returning from Cook's inlet. Nearly all were men who had gone north to seek fortunes in the fabled gold fields of that country. The poor fellows all returned as steerage passengers, and tell hard stories of that country. Among the passengers returning was O. D. Fairbanks, of Adrian, Mich., a photographer, who went to Cook's inlet for the purpose of taking panoramic views of that country. He asserts that not a single find of gold has been struck in that country, and that at Sunrise City there are now 1,000 men who are without money and have only enough provisions to last a short time. Fairbanks says that, unless the government sends relief, many are destined to die of starvation in the near future; that many men there mortgaged their farms in the states, the result of years of hard labor, to go north, and are now offering to work in Cook's inlet for 50 cents a day and board, but cannot get work. He says that the Boston & Alaska Company and the Alaska Gold Company had every claim within 300 miles of Sunrise City staked off before the common prospectors reached the country, and absolutely nothing remained. Upwards of 1,000 men have already left the Cook's inlet country, and those who are remaining are the ones who have not the means to get away.

IDAHO BANK ROBBED.

Six Men Compelled to Stand Helplessly By.

Denver, Aug. 17.—A special to the Republican from Pocatello says: Word is received from Montpelier, Idaho, that about 8 o'clock this afternoon, three masked men rode into town on horseback, stopping in front of the Bank of Montpelier. They dismounted and compelled six men who were standing in front of the bank to go inside. Two of the desperadoes then covered the men with revolvers, while the third went behind the counter and emptied all the cash in sight into three sacks. The robbers then mounted their horses and rode out of town.

Sheriff Davis organized a posse of men, who are in pursuit of the robbers, thirty minutes behind. It is thought they are heading for Jackson Hole, and if they are, their capture will be uncertain, as the Hole is known to be filled with a desperate gang, who will resist their capture. The bank officials refuse to disclose the amount secured, but it is believed to be fully \$10,000.

THE WEATHER RECORD.

Seven to Ten Hundred Have Died of Heat in New York.

New York, Aug. 14.—This was the eighth day of the hot weather. The number of deaths in Greater New York during the past week, as a result of the torrid wave, is estimated at from 700 to 1,000. In many cases the heat has been given the credit for causing deaths that in reality are due to other complications. On the other hand, many persons have doubtless perished from unknown causes when an autopsy would have shown "sunstroke" as the cause of death. Since Monday over 100 bodies have been sent to the potter's field from the morgue, and forty more will be hurried away tomorrow morning. Estimates of today range from forty to one hundred for New York, the total number of dead officially reported to 10:30 tonight amounting to sixty-seven. The total number of prostrations reported in New York city today was 250. The total deaths officially reported in Brooklyn today was twenty-five. The total deaths reported from Jersey City and surrounding towns during the day was about fifty.

DICKINSON TO RETIRE.

He Will Sever All Connections With the Northern Pacific.

Tacoma, Wash., Aug. 14.—When the receivership of the Northern Pacific railway terminates, August 31, George W. Dickinson, general manager under Receiver Burleigh, and long previous to that assistant general superintendent, will retire from all connection with the road. This he admitted tonight. He will retire of his own free will, and will remain in Tacoma. It is generally understood the position of assistant general superintendent and that of second vice-president, now held by C. H. Prescott, will be consolidated, and an Eastern man appointed. W. G. Pearce, now assistant to General Manager Kendrick, may probably be that man.

Walking for a Husband.

Ligonier, Ind., Aug. 17.—Miss Lizzie Rensor, of Cass county, started Wednesday to walk to St. Louis, where she is to meet B. A. Stenzel, of Denver. The long overland journey is to have its sequel in the marriage of the couple. Miss Rensor is 25 years old. Stenzel advertised in a matrimonial paper for a wife, and Miss Rensor was the successful applicant for his affections. The novel agreement that they should meet in St. Louis was made in lieu of Miss Rensor's inability to go to Denver. She expects to be assisted on her journey by persons en route.

PEOPLE'S PARTY TICKET.

Result of the Fusion in the State of Washington.

Last week, at Ellensburg, the Democrats, Populists and free silver Republicans of the state of Washington held their respective conventions. After much debate and concessions on the part of the three conventions, a combined ticket to be called the "People's Party" ticket, was agreed upon and placed in the field. It is as follows:

For governor—John R. Rogers, of Pierce, Populist.

For lieutenant-governor—Thurston Daniels, of Clarke, Populist.

For secretary of state—Will D. Jenkins, of Whatcom, Populist.

For state auditor—Neal Cheatham, of Whitman, Populist.

For state treasurer—C. W. Young, of Whitman, Populist.

For commissioner of public lands—Robert Bridges, of King, Populist.

For justice of the supreme court—John B. Reavis, of Yakima, Democrat.

For attorney-general—Patrick Henry Winston, of Spokane, Silverite.

For state printer—Gwin Hicks, of Thurston, Democrat.

For superintendent of public instruction—F. J. Brown, of King, Silverite.

For congressmen—James Hamilton Lewis, of King, Democrat; W. C. Jones, of Spokane, Silverite.

For presidential electors—H. N. Caton, of Whitman, Democrat; I. N. Maxwell, of Whatcom, Democrat; Charles E. Cline, of Whatcom, Populist; B. A. Newman, of Spokane, Populist.

Democratic Platform.

Following are the three platforms adopted at Ellensburg:

"Section 1. The representatives of the Democratic party of the state of Washington, in convention assembled, do hereby reaffirm our allegiance to the principles of the party as formulated by Thomas Jefferson and firmly maintained by Andrew Jackson. We believe that a constant recurrence to those fundamental principles of a free and popular government, based upon individual liberty and the consent of the governed, is necessary, especially when the control of this government threatens to fall into the hands of aristocracy, monopoly and despotism.

"Sec. 2. We greet with hearty approval the new declaration of independence enunciated by the Democracy of the United States of America at the recent convention in Chicago; indorse every principle of its platform, and pledge our united support to the candidates there selected. We recognize in the nomination of William Jennings Bryan and Arthur Sewall an inspiration from the Supreme Ruler of Nations, by whose favor our country has passed through every hour of trial and of peril and has ever found leaders equal to the occasion, grand as the opportunity, sufficient to the struggle, great as the need required.

"Sec. 3. We demand the free and unlimited coinage of silver and gold at the ratio of 16 to 1, without waiting for the consent of any other nation on earth. We denounce the pretense of Republican international bi-metalism as a subterfuge; an attempt to establish a gold aristocracy with the aid of those who may be duped by a meaningless phrase.

"Sec. 4. We denounce the present Republican administration of our state as extravagant, corrupt, scandal-breeding and a willful abuse of the people's rights. With a pretense of honoring the memory of the great names of champions of the people, it now bows down to political bosses and has not enrolled upon its banner the name of any man unsubserving to the dictates of the money power.

"Sec. 5. We call the attention of the common people to the perpetuation in our state of the gigantic Republican ring, which uses the public patronage to control future elections to perpetuate itself in the control of the public purse; uses the gigantic earnings of corporations (by the methods of Federal receiverships) to dictate the election of our representatives in congress and the senate; abuses the franchise of the public press by opening the columns of its newspapers to but one side of public discussions; demands of and receives from its votaries absolute prostitution of individual liberty to the dictates of machine politicians.

"Sec. 6. We invite the serious attention of the laboring classes in our state to the attempted control of the elective franchise by threats on the part of the Republican leaders. They do not hesitate to threaten their employes with discharge unless they submit to a sale of the free voting right guaranteed them by the constitution. Nor will they stop at threats, but will openly carry out the shameful abuse of power unless checked by the righteous indignation of a free people.

"Sec. 7. We pledge the people of this great state that when given the control of its government we will reduce the burden of state taxation to the lowest limit consistent with a just and careful administration of the governmental functions. We will stop the present squandering of the great public domain. We will, so far as now remains possible, use the public lands for the benefit of the whole people, and not for the purpose of pulling the purse-strings of private corporations. We will reduce the burdens laid upon production by the greed of transporta-

tion companies, aided by legislation purchased from Republican legislatures. To this end we favor a law providing for freight rates not exceeding those of the Helm bill, and we favor a 3-cent per mile passenger fare. We will endeavor to make possible the carrying out of our system of public schools, now closed as the result of Republican extravagance. 'Free common schools are the nursery of good government.' They should when necessity demands, be preserved even at the expense of every other function of government. The Republican control of the towns, cities, counties and state has resulted in the bankruptcy of our school districts, and we demand the overthrow of such control.

"Sec. 8. We condemn the refusal of the Republican party of this state to divide it into congressional districts, and pledge our party to fair division of the same.

"Sec. 9. We condemn our present election laws, contrived to throttle opposition to the ring in power; pledge our party to their unconditional repeal and the enactment of such laws as will enable each voter to vote as he pleases and have such vote counted.

"Sec. 10. Whereas, the railroad companies of this state have from time to time issued free passes to legislators and other public officers, thereby influencing their action, we demand that the legislators shall promptly pass adequate laws to enforce the constitutional provision against the granting of free passes to public officers and the use of same by such officers.

"Sec. 11. We demand better laws in relation to mortgage foreclosures; the abolition of deficiency judgments, and that the possession and use of real property remain in the mortgagor during the full period of redemption. Provided: That such laws shall not interfere with the obligation of existing contracts.

"Sec. 12. We pledge ourselves to place before the people amendments to the constitution reforming the present extravagant judicial system and system of state commissions.

"We recognize in the coming election a crisis in the affairs of government. Free government is self-government. We are threatened with a destruction of the principle of self-government. The national banks, the transportation and manufacturing corporations, the gold manipulators of Wall street and Lombard street claim the right to govern us. Democracy wears no collar; it serves no master; it has on its side the plain, every-day people of the country and state, and to them we appeal with an unquestioning belief that in this hour of trial and tribulation right will conquer, wrong will be dethroned, ever-controlling masses will overthrow classes, the people will again assume authority and prosperity return, heralded by the announcement of a 'government of the people, by the people and for the people.'"

The Populist Platform.

"We, the representatives of the People's party of the state of Washington, in convention assembled, reaffirm our allegiance to the principles enunciated at Omaha and St. Louis, and most heartily commend them to the favorable consideration of all lovers of freedom.

"Firmly believing that the present system of representative government is inadequate, and that it enables the few to control the policy of the government to the detriment of the interests of the people at large, and further believing that no permanent relief will be possible until the people can speak more directly on laws which they are required to obey, we demand that the people shall be given a direct vote on all important legislation, and that all officers shall be made the servants of the people, subject at any time to recall or dismissal, and not, as at present, the masters of those who create them.

"We demand the enactment into law of the following propositions. The material reduction of excessive salaries of all executive, legislative and judicial officers; lessened freight, passenger, telephone and telegraphic rates within the state; the adoption of the Torrens system of registering land titles; a general system of non-interest bearing warrants, receivable for taxes throughout the state; that school books be furnished to the people's pupils in our public schools at the expense of the state, that in case of sale of property under foreclosure the debtor shall retain possession of the property throughout the redemption period, and the prohibition of deficiency judgments, and that the period of redemption shall be two years instead of one; liberal exemption from taxation of personal property and improvements in or upon land; that the next legislature shall take the necessary legal steps to submit to the electors of this state to be voted upon at the next regular election an amendment to the state constitution conferring the elective franchise upon women citizens of this state; that the legislature pass a law in conformity with our state constitution making it a felony for any county, city or state officer to accept or use a railroad or other transportation pass, and that the law shall also be applicable to those who offer such passes, and we condemn all city, county and state officers who may have accepted and used such passes as betraying the trust reposed in them by the party and as violative of their duties as citizens.

"We condemn the chief executive of

this state for his ill considered and unjust vetoes of the deficiency judgment bill and the free text book bill, after having recommended it in his former message."

Free Silver Platform.

"We believe that the widespread prostration of our industries, the decline in agriculture, the embarrassment of our commerce and the ever-increasing distress of all our producers, the conditions and existence of which is admitted by all, are directly traceable to a contraction of the currency resulting from the demonetization of silver, and we demand the immediate restoration of silver by a law requiring its free, unlimited and independent coinage at the present legal ratio of 16 to 1 at our mints. We call the attention of the public to the fact that the people of the United States produce and consume of all the important products of industry more than one-half as much as all the balance of the earth combined; that the tonnage of our railroads exceeds by 60,000,000 tons annually the tonnage of all the foreign railroads added to the entire water traffic of the world, and that as a consequence of such enormous industrial energy our people annually transact fully one-third of the entire volume of the world's business, and we therefore denounce as cowardly, pusillanimous and un-American the declaration of the national Republican platform that this country cannot regulate its own financial system without foreign aid or interference, and regard the suggestion of an international agreement as insincere and contemptible, and we demand the repeal of any and all laws authorizing the destruction of the legal tender quality of money by private contract.

"We demand the foreclosure of the mortgage held by the government on the Union Pacific railroad, and should the government, through such foreclosure come into the ownership and possession of the same, we favor its operation by the government."

RAN INTO A TRUCK.

Motorman at Buffalo Makes a Distressing Blunder.

Buffalo, N. Y., Aug. 18.—Early this morning fire truck No. 6, with a crew consisting of Lieutenant Hedden and seven firemen, while responding to an alarm, collided with a trolley car at the corner of Woltz avenue and Sycamore street. The truck was stretched across the street-car track when the trolley, which was running at full speed, struck it. Every fireman on the truck was injured. John F. Clark was pinned under the wreck and crushed to death, his lungs being perforated by the round of a ladder. Fred Jackey went under the truck and received concussion of the spine. He cannot recover. The others injured are: Lieutenant Hedden, hip bruised; Michael Rosenberger, left leg sprained and contusions; John W. Bichel, arm sprained; Nicholas Noeller, hip bruised; Anthony Mannard, bruised. The motor car was smashed to pieces, but the motorman escaped with but slight injuries. Both the motorman and conductor of the car have been arrested. James Cowan, the motorman, says he heard the fire gong but did not slow up, as he thought he could cross the street ahead of the truck.

TORNADO IN ALABAMA.

Fifteen Persons Killed and Others More or Less Injured.

Selma, Ala., Aug. 18.—News was received here today from Augustine, Perry county, fourteen miles from a telegraph station, that a terrible and most destructive tornado swept over that place last evening, leveling everything in its path. Twelve negroes and three white people were killed by houses falling in on them, and ten other persons were more or less injured. Twenty-four horses and mules were crushed to death by falling barns. The tornado was followed by the heaviest rain that has fallen in that section in fifteen years. Creeks and branches were converted into raging torrents, sweeping away cotton, corn and other crops, causing heavy losses to planters.

DARING TRAIN ROBBERY.

This Was the Time the Desperadoes Were Captured.

Detroit, Aug. 18.—A special to the Free Press from Charlotte, Mich., says: "A special stock train which went east on the Chicago & Grand Trunk at 12:30 last night was boarded by four men at Bellevue, thirteen miles west of here, all masked and heavily armed, and at the point of their guns compelled the two men in charge of the stock to empty their pockets of all money, and a number other articles of small value. The robbers escaped, but were all captured by a posse this afternoon, and lodged in jail here. They gave their names as James O'Donnell, Frank Wright, Ed Marlow and Frank Edison, and ages from 18 to 23 years.

Aged Couple Killed by an Engine.

New York, Aug. 18.—Thaddeus K. Martin, aged 50, and his wife, aged 45, of Brooklyn, were struck by an engine of the Prospect Park & Coney Island railroad while crossing the track last night and were instantly killed. The engineer and conductor of the train were arrested.