

# The Only Living Person to Set Foot on the North Pole is a Negro

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miles of the most difficult path to be trod by man. The temperature is 50 below zero. Now it is necessary to limit the number of men so that there will be less mouths to feed and that there

work," said Peary; "secondly, because of his loyalty. . . Henson can handle a sledge better than any man living except some of the best of the Eskimos."

### Peary and Henson Alone

The time has come to start on the

world. (See Liberty Magazine, July 17, 1926.)

It is a matter of human interest that when Peary actually had his fingers on the prize, so to speak, he found himself too weary to take those last few steps and stand at the point he had given his lifetime to win.

The next day the Stars and Stripes were planted at the Pole. The goal of the ages had been won!

"As I stood at the top of the world," says Henson, "and thought of the hundreds of men who had lost their lives in the effort to reach it, I felt profoundly grateful that I, as the personal attendant of the commander, had the honor of representing my race in the historic achievement."

The long trail was finished. The work was done. There was nothing left to do but to return and tell the tale of the doing to an expectant world. At least so thought the heroes.

### A Disappointed Hero

But how was Peary and Henson received? The story is too well-known to need repetition here. An impostor, Captain Frederick Cook, had returned a few weeks before saying that he had reached the Pole. It took Peary two years to prove his claim, and it may be some satisfaction to know

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### INVENTED SEVERAL ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES

The most useful Negro inventor with a career extending into the twentieth century was Granville T. Woods. He invented fifteen appliances having to do with electrical railways and a number of others for electrical control and distribution. He directed his attention also to telegraphy, producing several patents for sending messages between moving trains and also several transmitters.



Henson pointing to a spot on the treasured map of the Arctic where a snow blizzard was encountered.

may be reserves in case of need. Six are to go; the commander, Henson, and 4 of the fittest Eskimos. Peary has selected Henson not because of any sentiment but because he is the fittest in every way. "Primarily for his adaptability and fitness for the

last lap of the journey. A farewell party is given at which the principal dish is a stew made of a weak dog. There are five sledges, eight dogs to each.

Farewells are said by comrades who might never meet again. "At last," says Henson, "the captain (Bartlett) has gone. Commander Peary and I were alone (save for the four Eskimos) the same as we had been so often in the past years and as we looked at each other we realized our position and we knew without speaking that the time had come for us to demonstrate that we were the men, who, it had been ordained, should unlock the door which held the mystery of the Arctic. Without an instant's hesitation the order to push on was given."

The party pushed on, traveling smoothly, thanks to the experience born of 23 years of toil. Henson, however, came very near losing his life. "It was during the march of the 3d of April," he says, "that I endured an instant of hideous horror." He was crossing a lane of moving ice when a block of ice he was using as a support slipped from under his feet and before he knew it he fell into the water.

Embarrassed by his heavy clothing, he was sinking, his gloved hands being unable to take hold of the ice when one of the Eskimos pulled him out. "He had saved my life," says Henson, "but I did not tell him so, for such occurrences are taken as part of the day's work, and the sledge he had safeguarded was of much more importance for it held, as part of its load, the commander's sextant, the mercury, and the coils of piano-wire that were the essential portion of the scientific portion of the expedition." That same day Peary himself had the same experience.

### Henson, First at Pole

At last on April 6, 1909, the party made camp feeling sure from the distance travelled that the Pole had been reached. Peary, worn with fatigue, went to sleep. Henson walked out. Later when measurements had been taken, it was discovered that Henson in his walk had been the first mortal to stand on the top of the

# Is Free Love a Dog's Ideal?

By RITA RANDALL

There is nothing new in free love, a multitude of wives or husbands one after another, or any of these things which we see all around us.

Dogs have enjoyed free love since the first male dog started out over a new world in search of a mate. So have many other forms of animal life.

We, with our superior intelligence surely need not pat ourselves upon the back because we have managed after several millions of years to make popular something that Pido and Towser have always found convenient.

The dog's ideal has always been "a mate whenever I want a mate, no matter where I find her." Men's ideal has always been "one wife, one home."

Seems to me we should pat ourselves upon the back when we are able to live up to the old form, rather

than when we drop down to that which has always been possessed by the animals.

### EAT THEIR TABLE DECORATION!

Table decorations have always pleased the eye. The modern variety tickle the sense of taste as well, and are becoming increasingly popular with the hostess and her guests. To eat one's place card is the latest thing in social circles.

Candy centerpieces and individual souvenirs are being made to harmonize with any decorative plan the hostess chooses to select. Mints, bonbons, and hard candies in delicate tints of pink, yellow, green or red are in great demand for teas and bridge parties, while broad "satin" ribbons of peppermint, roses in natural colors with green leaves, and candy place cards provide novelty for formal or informal dinner parties.

Needless to say, these edible table trimmings are consumed at the end of the meal, and furnish excellent "fuel" to burn up the fats that go with banqueting.



# Indigestion

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