

# COOK PLEDGED HARRY WHITNEY



Not to Tell Peary That He Had Reached North Pole a Year Before.

PEARY IS VERY CONSISTENT

Ten Years Ago He Refused to Bring Back Sverdrup's Letters or Records.

## PRESIDENTS COME AND PRESIDENTS GO BUT, HUSLER'S FLOUR FOREVER!

S. Johns, N. E., Sept. 28.—The arctic explorer Jeanie, with Harry Whitney, the New Haven big game hunter, on board, has arrived here from the Greenland coast by way of Indian Harbor, Labrador.

Mr. Whitney was questioned regarding the statements made to him by Dr. Cook in Greenland. He said Cook arrived at Annatook in April of this year and declared that he had reached the north pole a year before. He pledged Whitney, however, not to tell Commander Peary, who was to be informed only that Cook had gone further north than Peary's previous record, 6 degrees, 6 minutes.

Murphy, Peary's boatswain, who was in charge of the stores, was absent at Etah on this day and did not hear Cook's communication.

There were two houses on the Green- land shore, one at Annatook, holding Cook's stores, and another at Etah, holding Peary's stores. The three white men, Whitney, Murphy and Bridgeman, sometimes occupied one and sometimes the other of these houses. Murphy was in charge of both houses. He was not able to read or write. He had written instructions from Peary which Whitney at Peary's request, had over to him from time to time. These instructions were very stringent, ordering Dr. Cook to return to Etah.

Peary, however, was coming up for supplies, but as the ship had not arrived, Whitney was at a loss what to do with the property.

Peary declined to permit Dr. Cook's belongings to be brought aboard the Roosevelt, and he put Whitney on his honor not to include anything belonging to Dr. Cook in his own luggage.

Murphy was told in them that he was to give Dr. Cook every help if he was along in a heavy condition, and furthermore the instructions implied that Murphy was to organize an expedition to search for Dr. Cook, but according to Mr. Whitney, it is part of the instructions was worded very ambiguously.

Mr. Whitney said that Cook had a copy of these instructions and would doubtless make them public. Murphy treated Cook very civilly and Cook suffered no discourtesy.

When Dr. Cook and his Eskimos arrived at Etah he had no sledge, being unable to drag it over the frozen ice, they had left it 20 miles from Etah. The following day some of the Eskimos went out, recovered the sledge and brought it in. On it were Dr. Cook's instruments, clothes and tools.

**COOK PLANNED CORRECTLY.**

The doctor had figured rightly the far as he could reach Upernivik, and when the Dundee whalers or Danish whalers would reach there, and he knew that he had no time to lose.

Replanned originally to take Etah, Kulusuk and two others, but one Eskimo fell sick, and it was necessary for him to lay down the luggage he had taken with him south. He consequently asked Whitney to take charge of the instruments with which he had made his observations at the pole.

There were three cases, one containing a sextant, another an artificial horizon and the third a compass, which Mr. Whitney had not been able to recall. It is possible that he had a chronometer. Cook left no written records with Whitney that Whitney is aware of. There may have been some records, however, in the other boxes in which Cook packed his clothes and his personal effects, but Cook did not tell Whitney especially that he was leaving any written records with him. Mr. Whitney was very particular about the compass.

After Cook departed for the south, Whitney resumed his hunting. He took over Cook's two Eskimos, Etakissuk and Avisiak, to show him the country where Cook had shot musk oxen. This the two men did, and Whitney bagged all the oxen he could carry out in his sledges. He said he found these two Eskimos to be quite satisfactory in hunting capacities, but he knows nothing of their value in a dash across the polar sea.

**WHITNEY TELLS PEARY.**

Concerning Mr. Whitney said that last month when Peary, on board the Roosevelt, reached Etah from the north after his winter's work there he

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