

**The West**

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WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 8, 1909.

**Sound Advice.**

Mr. Robert Meighen, President of the Lake of the Woods Milling Co., is reported in the Toronto Globe as advising the farmers to avoid the selling of options as they would be a serpent. This is remarkably sound advice, says the Canadian Farm. Mr. Meighen likewise advises the grain growers of the West to "deal out the wheat as they would medicine, and make the boys climb." It must be confessed that these utterances are somewhat Delphic in their construction. It takes about so much wheat to supply the needs first of North America and then of the rest of the world. Admittedly this crop is no record-breaker in point of quantity, though it may prove to be one of superlative quality. So let us market it conservatively. But let us consider the case of the other fellow. One thing, however, let us nail down now and forever more; the speculative market or the selling of options or obligations to deliver so much wheat during a stated month at a stated price is to be avoided by farmers, not only like a serpent, but even as our own ancestors avoided meeting up with the gentleman who first started the use of the orthopedic shoe to hide the cloven deformity of his feet.

**Prof. Marshall's Statement.**

An article appeared in this paper a few weeks ago which was written by Prof. Marshall for the Kingston Standard, in which the statement was made that: "It is freely said that Saskatoon was willing to pay for the location of the parliament buildings and that Regina getting word of it simply went some ten or fifteen thousand better. Names and sums of money were quite currently mentioned. With Saskatoon aware of how she was beaten in the race for the capital, the location of the university was a foregone conclusion. Saskatoon had it from the first, though the government made a brave show of leaving it in the hands of the governors. Principal Murray's position—his judgment as to the best place for the university rendered abortive by the intriguing schemes of the politicians—must be anything but an agreeable one."

In commenting on this the Saskatoon Phoenix made some uncomplimentary remarks about Prof. Marshall, to which in a letter he replies as follows:

"The Phoenix accuses me directly of saying that Saskatoon bought the location of the university and insinuates that I reflected on the honor of the board of governors. Both are false. I said nothing of the sort. Friends of the government at Regina, themselves have told me that the location of the university was a pre-election promise, a foregone conclusion; that the appearance of considering the relative advantages of different places was merely a 'bluff' and that, as the Regina Collegiate Institute already did two years' university work, and as the law and medical schools

would be in Regina, the city would in time have a university also.

"That the possibility of two universities in the province instead of one would be interesting to Standard readers, residents of a town in which the experiment of an independent university has been carried on so successfully, might be presumed, and I took upon me to report what I heard without coming to Saskatoon to plead for the Phoenix's permission."

So the story goes. The government through its friends admits that they were only using the members of the Board of Governors. What must President Murray and other members of the board now think?

What also must the other cities think of the government who also promised that the university would be located within or near their borders?

**U. S. Immigrants.**

The New York Tribune congratulates Canada upon its good fortune in winning from the United States large numbers of farmers of the kind most to be desired for the settling of the Prairie Provinces. On the same point the country had been complimented by Mr. J. J. Hill a few days before. At a banquet in Winnipeg he dwelt on the fact that the men who are leaving the Western States to make homes for themselves to the north of the border bring with them sums running from \$5,000 to \$20,000 each. Besides adequate financial resources, they have the training necessary for success on our lands. Farming in our portion of the central plain of the continent presents the same problems as farming in the northern part of the United States portion. As a rule, too, the Americans who seek their fortunes in Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta are rather young men, with the most useful part of their life before them. In every way they are well qualified for the work of swelling Canada's wealth. Mr. Hill is probably not far wrong in his statement that a man of this kind will contribute as much to the progress of the country in one year as the average immigrant from the mainland of Europe would contribute in ten. The Tribune regrets that the United States is not receiving from any quarter immigrants so well prepared for incorporation into the country as the people it is losing to Canada. It remarks that the settler who removes from the Western States to Canada carries with him not only money and ambition, but respect for law and familiarity with its application. But of the immigrants received by the United States many show no tendency to become assimilated into the body politic, even after they have accepted citizenship. That Canada has no inconsiderable element of the same intractable kind is not to be denied, and Mr. Hill's advice that more attention be paid to quality than to quantity is to be commended to our Government. The inhabitant who devotes his energies to the cultivation of our fertile soil and conforms to the law is not only of great economic and moral worth, but is sure to become a political unit in the national life of Canada. The immigrants who succeed in this country soon succumb to its influence. They be-

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come staunch Canadians, and there is no part of the population likely to be more tenacious of Canada's political individuality than the Canadian children of American settlers in Canada.

**Editorial Note.**

The North Pole has been located by Dr. Cook and Canadian authorities claim it belongs to Canada. This is another new field for Scott and Calder. While there may be no rabbits located there, surely the gang will be able to find something to vote for them. Let there be an election contest at once for this new constituency.

**White Slave Traffic.**

Readers of the West know something of the heartless traffic in young girls for immoral purposes, carried on by abandoned wretches of both sexes, who do not scruple to traffic in guileless and weak humanity. Hon. E. W. Sims of Chicago, believes that there are not less than 15,000 foreign girls imported and sold into this traffic annually in the United States and Canada, and probably three or four times as many native born girls find their way into the same hopeless life of vice. And all to line the pockets of the wealthy traffickers in women.

**Press Comment.**

(Carrot River Journal)

It is just four years now since Fred Haultain was switched off and Walter Scott turned on as Chief Beadle in Saskatchewan. And what is the result so far as the province is concerned? Halt as much coming back from Regina, twice the taxes we formerly paid and Haultain's old ordinances all warmed over and called legislation. Hadn't we better de-throne the Rabbit-skin, the gun, and the "flick-a-fly-off" families and resume normal self-government?

(Toronto Telegram)

Is Dr. Cook telling the truth when he reports that he discovered the North Pole, and proves his discovery by the evidence of a couple of Esquimaux witnesses?

Assuredly.

But imagine the loud laugh that would speak the vacant mind of the United States press if an explorer of some other country, British preferred, asked an unbelieving world to take his word for it that he had discovered the Pole, and if they did not believe him to ask the untutored Esquimaux who accompanied him and who would not know the North Pole if they met it.

(Victoria Colonist)

The attorney general of the United States says that the discovery of the North Pole gives the United States territorial rights there. It is just a little soon to express opinions on that point. It is all very well to talk of "the constitution following flag," but no one should say that if some explorer should post the Stars and Stripes in the centre of Labrador, where no one had been before, he would thereby annex the country to the United States. Until we know whether the North Pole is on an island or not, there is no use in speculating as to its ownership. A correspondent wants to know if Canada can claim it, seeing that it is north of the Dominion. But it is also north of Alaska, which the United States owns; north of Greenland which Denmark owns; north of Norway, Sweden, European Russia, and Siberia. Canada has no more claim to the country than any one else, unless it can be shown that the pole is

**NORTH POLE DISCOVERED**

Dr. Cook Claims to Have Planted the American Flag on the North Pole on April 21st, 1909—Life Sketch of the Discoverer.

San Jose, Cal., Sept. 2.—Mrs. J. Martz, wife of a Redlands capitalist, is said by Father Richard Gleeson, president of the Santa Clara College, to have received a cablegram yesterday from Dr. Frederick A. Cook, announcing the success of his polar expedition. Mrs. Martz came to San Jose on Monday to enter her son as a student in the college. Yesterday, according to Father Gleeson, she telephoned him to tell him the news she had received. The message she read to him was as follows: "Have placed the Stars and Stripes on the North Pole." She explained it was from Dr. Cook, who had been sent in accordance with an agreement between them that he would let her have the first news of the expedition.

London, Sept. 2.—After reading a brief summary of Dr. Frederick A. Cook's account of his dash to the North Pole, Lieutenant Ernest H. Shackleton, who recently led an expedition to the South polar regions, said that nobody had any right to be skeptical. There was nothing in the explorer's statement but that was possible after he got within 200 miles of pole, and after reaching the pole and getting back to solid land there was nothing to prevent Dr. Cook living with the Eskimos until this year. "Consequently," the Lieutenant continued, "I do not think the time it took him to return is against his statement. The question is, what distance was he actually from the pole when he started with the Eskimos. He must have done 12 miles a day to cover the distance given in 35 days. No other expedition has been able to do anything near this. In the north one or two miles a day is considered good progress, but Cook must have travelled over absolutely smooth ice which is a condition that is unique."

L. T. Shackleton's statement is based on the reports that Dr. Cook was at Cape Hubbard on March 17, and that he reached the pole April 21, 1908. Cape Hubbard is at the northernmost point of Grinnell's Island, and said to be between 800 and 400 miles from the pole. To cover this distance in 35 days Dr. Cook would have to travel at the rate of from 10 to 13 miles a day.

New York, Sept. 2.—Dr. Cook won by studying the mistakes of Peary, Nansen, Greeley and others who failed, and profiting by their errors he was not afraid to think for himself and cut free of the Arctic traditions. That in a nutshell is John R. Bradley's explanation of Dr. Cook's triumph and it came out very emphatically in a sharp retort to Admiral Melville's assertion that Cook must have won on nerve alone.

Bradley, who fitted out Cook's expedition, and who accompanied him part of the distance does not mince matters. "Dr. Cook's was the most intelligently fitted expedition that ever left port for the Arctic," he explained to a reporter in his luxurious rooms at Hotel Lorraine. "His outfit was the best in the world, because it contained what he needed in the least possible weight and the smallest space. Cook has as much nerve as any man but he had something besides nerve to carry him through. His was no intensified Arctic joy ride undertaken on sheer nerve."

**Life Sketch of Dr. Cook.**

Dr. Frederick Albert Cook is a physician and noted explorer, his home being at 870 Brunswick avenue, Brooklyn. He was born June 10, 1865, at Calicoon Depot, Sullivan county, State of New York, the son of Dr. Theodore Albert Cook. He received his education in Brooklyn, Calicoon and New York, taking his M.D. at the University of New York in 1890.

He was married June 10, 1902, to Mary Fidell Hunt. He was surgeon of the Peary Arctic expedition, 1891-2, and surgeon of the Belgian Antarctic expedition, 1897-9. He is an author of some note on Polar and particularly Antarctic exploration, having contributed extensively to the magazines and in 1900 published a book, "Through the First Antarctic Night." His real family name is not Cook, but Kook, his father having Americanized the name.

**Tries to Commit Suicide.**

A recently arrived immigrant made two desperate attempts to commit suicide by jumping off trains between Maple Creek and Medicine Hat on Monday evening. The man first boarded the Soo-Seattle train at Maple Creek, and when the train had attained considerable speed jumped from the steps, sustaining injuries. Before the second section of No. 1 reached Maple Creek he had succeeded in walking back to the station, where he boarded the train and created a disturbance by his agitated manner. Shortly after the train pulled out he approached one of the passengers requesting the loan of a gun; and a few minutes later jumped through the rear vestibule window of the car. In a miraculous manner he escaped death, falling clear of the rails on the soft ballast. The train pulled up and returned three miles, meeting the would-be suicide walking leisurely along the ties. His head and arms were severely bruised. The man gave no explanation of his conduct. Inspector Parker of the Mounted Police and Dr. Smith met the train at the Hat, and the injured man was immediately conveyed in an ambulance to the general hospital. The train was travelling at the rate of twenty miles an hour when the man made the second attempt to destroy himself.—Maple Creek News.

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**CRAIK SASK**

Dr. Cook has also been a noted discoverer in the Antarctic regions. In 1898 and 1899 he accompanied an expedition to discover the south pole, which was financed by the Belgian government. The steamer left Antwerp at the end of August. He steamed and sailed down the Atlantic from Madeira, then across the Rio De Janeiro into the Straits of Magellan and thence into the unknown region of the south. It was on January 23, 1898, that they came in sight of the outer fringe of a new land, the Palmer archipelago. Entering this they discovered a new highway which in size compared favorably with the Magellan straits. The work of the first three weeks in the new regions proved the discovery of a highway perfectly free for navigation during the summer months from Westfield straits, 200 miles southwesterly, to an unknown land to the Pacific. This highway received the name of their ship.

Late in February they entered the main body of the sea ice, intending to push southward and westward. After penetrating ninety miles they found themselves firmly beset. Unable to extricate the ship, they drifted with the ice to and fro, but generally west, for thirteen long months. The expedition was unable to get further south. Scientific work was prosecuted throughout the whole year. It was not until March 14, 1899, that they were released from the ice and started northward again.

Dr. Cook has received the following decorations: Order of Leopold, Belgium; Gold Medal of Royal Society, Belgium; Silver Medal, Royal Geographical Society, Belgium. He is a member of the American National Geographical society, the Philadelphia Geographical society, and the Brooklyn Medical society.

**GUN FATALITY**

Duck shooting season has not been ushered in without its usual accidents, and none could be more tragic than that which ended the bright career of Max McDonald, of Glen Ewen, on Tuesday. He was cleaning his gun in preparation for the morning sport when by some slip the gun exploded, blowing a portion of his head off and killing him instantly. Mr. McDonald who was manager of the lumber yards at Glen Ewen, was a young man of exceptionally bright promise. He had only lately established himself at Glen Ewen, and had got his parents and sister out from Russell, Ont., to make their home with him. The sad fatality has cast a gloom over the district, as well as plunging the happy family into sorrow's depths. The deceased was a younger brother of Robt. McDonald of Rouleau, formerly of Alameda, and well known in the district, to whom much sympathy will be extended in their sorrow.—Estevan Mercury.

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DAVID HENDERSON,  
Belleisle Station, King's Co., N. B., Sept. 17, 1904.

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