

in the blinding smoke and distracting confusions of its preliminary skirmishes.

Though we draw upon the vocabularies of warfare, let it be understood that the connotations are those of peace. Not "the peace of the graveyard," but that peace through social equilibrium which passeth the understanding of the privileged and their cohorts.

+

No uncertain prophecy, it now seems to be, that in the future the name of William Lloyd Garrison will stand in common thought, not for one apostle of freedom, but for two.

INCIDENTAL SUGGESTIONS

VISIT NEW SOUTH WALES.

Sydney, N. S. W., Australia, Aug. 1.

Isn't it possible for some of your readers to take at times a tramp abroad? A long holiday comes due now and then, and where to spend it most profitably is a problem which cannot be easily solved in an age that has seen so much of the world made accessible to travellers. The writer wishes to urge the claims of New South Wales.

New South Wales is naturally one of the most favored parts of the world. By copying the follies of older countries, the inhabitants have to some extent discounted the great blank cheque given them to fill in; but they have done something to further civic ideals.

The traditional fiscal policy of the state was always free trade until that advantage was lost through joining the other states in establishing the Australian Commonwealth in 1900. But ever since 1889 the taxation of land values for revenue purposes has been an essential policy of that state.

In 1896 the principle was incorporated in the laws of the state and a tax on land values was imposed for revenue to replace revenue lost through remission of customs duties. Then in 1906 the local government act, which enabled all Shire and Municipal councils, except the city portion of the capital, to raise all their revenue from land values was passed. This has been done in a very large majority of cases.

There are therefore two reasons why New South Wales should be remembered when an American takes a tramp abroad: its real attractiveness to tourists, and the fact that it leads in practically applying the principles of Henry George.

A. G. HUIE.

+ + +

CHARITY AND REFORM.

Chicago, Sept. 5.

I wish everybody had the privilege of reading the editorial in the Public of September 3 on "Charity Begins at Home." But the original use of this adage was more complete. It ran, "Charity begins at home, and reform goes abroad." This is putting the gospel in its inverted sense, like inverting the Golden Rule: "Do the other fellow before he does you." While

both are perversions of sound doctrine, both are largely, too largely, the doctrine of life. Rightly interpreted, the adage means that one is ever ready to excuse his own weaknesses, mistakes and evils, but exacts strength, correctness and good of his neighbor. Reform should begin at home, and charity should go abroad. In other words, one should reform himself and exercise charity for his neighbor. But, as the adage runs, one prefers that the neighbor should reform, while he himself remains lawless; or, "that charity remain at home, while reform goes abroad." It is time that this almost universal error was arrested and the true rendering given in its place.

A. B. F.

NEWS NARRATIVE

To use the reference figures of this Department for obtaining continuous news narratives:

Observe the reference figures in any article; turn back to the page they indicate and find there the next preceding article, on the same subject; observe the reference figures in that article, and turn back as before; continue until you come to the earliest article on the subject; then retrace your course through the indicated pages, reading each article in chronological order, and you will have a continuous news narrative of the subject from its historical beginnings to date.

Week ending Tuesday, September 14, 1909.

Journeying to the North Pole.

Commander Robert E. Peary's telegrams from Labrador on the 6th, announcing that he had reached the North Pole last April (p. 873), were followed by fuller accounts of his journey sent by wireless on the days following, while the Commander was still detained on the Labrador coast by the need of coaling and of making repairs to his ice-worn steamer the Roosevelt. The following telegrams were exchanged on the 8th:

Indian Harbor, via Cape Ray, N. F., Sept. 8, 1909.—William H. Taft, President of the United States, Washington, D. C.: Have honor to place North Pole at your disposal.

R. E. PEARY, United States Navy.

Beverly, Mass., Sept. 8, 1909.—Commander R. E. Peary, A. S. T., Indian Harbor, via Cape Ray, N. F.: Thanks for your interesting and generous offer. I do not know exactly what I could do with it. I congratulate you sincerely on having achieved, after the greatest effort, the object of your trip, and I sincerely hope that your observations will contribute substantially to scientific knowledge. You have added luster to the name "American."

WILLIAM H. TAFT.

The following message was received in Washington on the 11th:

Honorable Secretary of State, Washington, D. C.: Respectfully report hoisted Stars and Stripes on North Pole April 6 and formally took possession that entire region and adjacent for and in name of President of the United States America. Record and United States flag left in possession.

PEARY.

It was stated in Ottawa on the 12th that a ques-

tion which had been asked in the British House of Commons as to the ownership of the North Pole had been referred to Canada for reply, and that Canada's answer in effect would be that all the territory between the North American boundary and the North Pole must be recognized as Canada's hinterland. The islands, it is maintained, have been formally taken possession of by Captain Bernier, Canada's arctic explorer, who is now lost in the far north.

+

Monopolistic copyright claims on the part of rival newspapers over both Cook's and Peary's stories, going to such extremes that the New York Times even obtained book copyright on a half column of brief summary from Mr. Peary, published on the 9th, have to a degree hampered the general dissemination of the actual news in regard to the expeditions in question. The main facts, however, have become common knowledge. Commander Peary with his sledge expedition left his ship, the Roosevelt, on February 15, 1909. He arrived at Cape Columbia, the last land, on March 1. He proceeded over the polar ice with seven members of the expedition, 17 Eskimos, 133 dogs, and 19 sledges, dropping as he had prearranged, group after group of his men, both the white men of his expedition and Eskimos, until he dropped his last white man, Captain Bartlett of the Roosevelt, an Englishman, at about the 88th parallel on April 2. He crossed the 89th parallel April 4. And leaving the rest of his party, with the exception of one Eskimo, before he started on his last dash, when he made 40 miles in twelve hours, he reached the Pole on the 6th. He reports taking photographs, planting flags, and depositing records. Five miles from the Pole he found a narrow crack in the ancient ice masses, filled with recent ice, through which he and his Eskimo companion worked a hole with a pickax, which enabled them to make a sounding. All his wire was sent down, 1,500 fathoms (a fathom is six feet), but no bottom was reached. In pulling the wire up it parted, and lead and wire went to the bottom, so the reel and handle were thrown away. On the return journey, begun on the 7th, still more remarkable time was made, Cape Columbia being reached again by the 23d. The expedition lost one member. Dr. Ross G. Marvin was drowned near Cape Columbia on his return to that point.

+

With Commander Peary's reports of his expedition to the Pole have come also vehement denials from him of Dr. Cook's claims to priority of discovery, as in the following telegrams:

Indian Harbor, Labrador (by wireless via Cape Ray, N. F.), Sept. 7.—To Melville E. Stone, Associated Press, New York: I have nailed the Stars and Stripes to the North Pole. This is authoritative and

correct. Cook's story should not be taken too seriously. The two Eskimos who accompanied him say he went no distance north and not out of sight of land. Other members of the tribe corroborate their story.

PEARY.

Indian Harbor, Labrador (via Cape Ray, N. F.), Sept. 8 [To Mrs. Peary]:—Good morning. Delayed by gale. Don't let Cook story worry you. Have him nailed.

BERT.

Indian Harbor, Labrador.—The Reuter Telegram Company:—Cook's story should not be taken too seriously. The Eskimos who accompanied him say he went no distance north and not out of sight of land. Other men of the tribe corroborate their statement.

PEARY.

Battle Harbor, via Cape Ray, N. F., Sept. 10.—The Editor of the [New York] Herald: Do not imagine Herald likely be imposed upon by Cook story, but for your information Cook has simply handed the public a gold brick. He had not been at the pole on April 21, 1908, or any other time. The above statement is made advisedly and at the proper time will be backed by proof.

PEARY.

The status of the controversy between the two explorers thus unhappily precipitated, as it appears to the general public at this time, is fairly described by the Chicago Inter Ocean of the 12th, as follows:

Peary has now told the detailed story of his dash to the Pole. In reading it one can not escape the surprising fact that it tends to corroborate Cook's narrative in several particulars. . . .

Like Cook, Peary brought back practically his own word alone to support his claim that he had attained the earth's apex.

When we come to rate of travel, Cook's fifteen miles a day seems modest in comparison with the distances Peary covered. When near the eighty-eighth parallel Peary decided to attempt to reach the Pole in five days' marches. According to his story, he made twenty-five miles on the first day, twenty on the second, twenty on the third, twenty-five on the fourth, and forty—yes, forty! on the fifth. On these last five days he traveled at an average rate of twenty-six miles a day.

And on the return trip from the Pole to Cape Columbia he made even better time. He tried, he says, on his return trip to make double the distance he covered on his dash to the Pole. "As a matter of fact," he declares, "we nearly did this, covering regularly on our return journey five outward marches in three return marches."

It is easy to figure out the average rate of speed he made on his return trip. He started back from the Pole, he says, on April 7 and reached Cape Columbia on April 23, covering the 450 miles in sixteen days. This is a daily rate of 28.12 miles a day. . . .

We learn from Peary's story that he started for the Pole earlier in the season than Cook. He started in February, Cook in March. He reached the Pole fifteen days earlier in the season—Cook fixes the date as April 21 and Peary as April 6. This would

seem to dispel all doubt about Cook's ability to travel in what is winter weather in the arctic.

Cook's references to "milling ice" and "purple snows" would seem unimportant, except that the doubting Thomases have seized upon it. Peary says that as he approached the Pole he found the ice in motion that was both visible and audible. And, though he says nothing of "purple snows," he describes the surface of the old floes as being "dotted with the sapphire ice of the previous summer's lakes."

So if we doubt Cook, why should we not doubt Peary? And if we believe Peary, why should we not believe Cook? Peary's is the unemotional, detailed, matter-of-fact story of a scientist. Cook's is the breathless and exultant tale of a triumphant adventurer.

If both Peary and Cook reached the Pole—and there is, on the face of things, no more reason to doubt one than to doubt the other—their expeditions must remain distinct in purpose and character. The one was a scientific achievement, the other a heroic adventure.



Dr. Frederick A. Cook (p. 872) received on the 7th from the Royal Danish Geographical Society its large gold medal in recognition of his having been the first explorer to reach the North Pole. Dr. Cook crossed from Copenhagen to Christiansand, Norway, on the 11th, and there took the steamer Oscar II for New York. He was received with enormous enthusiasm by the Norwegians, and a special salute was fired in his honor by order of King Haakon.



The Land Question in England.

All doubt of the early adoption of the budget (p. 875) by the House of Commons is now at an end. The problem now is what the House of Lords will do with it. They may cut out the land tax clauses and adopt the rest of the measure; but this would be revolutionary, and if the Commons refused to submit, as they doubtless would, the very existence of the House of Lords might hang in the balance. Or, they might reject the whole budget, as they have the constitutional right to do; but that would cut off public revenues, and stop the wheels of government, all for the sake of a few dukes, and this is an issue the Lords hesitate to challenge. For these reasons a speech by Lord Rosebery, announced for delivery at Glasgow on the 10th, was anticipated with intense interest, as likely to indicate the policy of the House of Lords. When Rosebery's first words were reported in London, they were ferocious in their hostility to the budget, and there was a rush to the conclusion that the Lords had decided to kill it. But when he came to his peroration he restored the old feeling of uncertainty by disclaiming all responsibility for the House of Lords. "The situation, then, remains indecisive," says T. P. O'Conner in his Chicago Tribune cable letter of the 11th,

"especially as two to three weeks must elapse before the budget reaches the House of Lords and anything may happen in the interval. This indecision is reflected in the organs of the Tory party. The Times does not cease to hesitate and the Morning Post will have no alliance with Rosebery unless he abandons free trade. The Daily Telegraph alone boldly advocates the rejection of the budget. . . . The Radicals and Irish members believe the rejection of the budget too good news to be true, all parties agreeing that such rejection means the beginning of the end of the privileges of the House of Lords and a certain and early advent of home rule.



The tremendous upheaval of public opinion in favor of the budget is pictured in the following excerpts from "Land Values" of London, which are confirmed by the British press in general:

The revolution inaugurated by the budget is making steady progress. The first notice of this overturning movement appeared in the Westminster Gazette of July 29th, in a series of letters intended to burlesque the policy of the tariff reformers. The correspondents confessed that tariff reform associated with protests against the budget was received unfavorably by the people, and the leaders of the movement were advised to dissociate themselves from the attack on land values. On August 4th a more serious indication of the change appeared in the Times. There was a respite of a few days in the discussion of the finance bill. The Times political correspondent said this had given an opportunity of estimating how opinion in the country stood on the question of the budget. "That the Government," he said, "feel themselves to be in a stronger position today than two months ago is plainly indicated by the confidence which ministers exhibit in conversation on the subject. It is also indicated by the trend of gossip, and by that curious sense of change which may be felt by those sensitive to impressions, a change comparable only to the turn of the tide upon an estuary when the moored boats swing slowly round." These faint shocks and rumbles were but the precursors of the most serious earthquake, eruption, and tidal wave that have overtaken a political party for generations. Up till this time the old landmarks had remained. The Conservatives talked bravely in parliament, on the platforms, and in the press, but on August 5th the Daily Mail and the Morning Post abandoned their old positions, and were found standing on that morning on what their readers might regard as their heads. The whole landscape was changed. What was anti-budget yesterday was pro-budget today. The fight against it was over. The country was strongly in its favor. Its new and great features had commended it to the people as nothing had done before. The same upheaval was taking place at meetings in the country. On August 4th, at Biggleswade, a resolution in favor of the budget was carried almost unanimously at a meeting called to protest against it. . . . The defection in the Tory Press was a result of the defection in the country. A simple promise of Liberal policy has taken the heart out of the re-