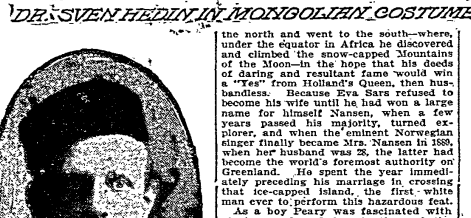


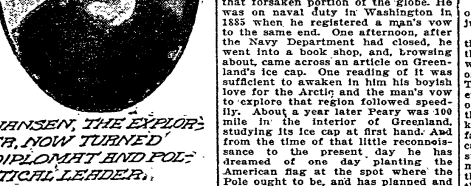
THE FOREMOST EXPLORERS ARE PERRY, NANSEN, THE DUKE OF ABRUZZA AND SVEN HEDIN



DR. FREDERICH COOK AS HE APPEARS WHEN IN THE ARCTIC AND AT HOME.



DR. SVEN HEDIN IN MONGOLIAN COSTUME



NANSEN, THE EXPLORER, IS NOW TURNED DIPLOMAT AND POLITICAL LEADER.

BY JOHN S. HARRWOOD.

LIST of the eminent—and otherwise—explorers of today proves conclusively what the photographers say. Most of the north, leaving out of the question the Arctic and Antarctic regions and the deserts of Asia, Africa and Australia, is fairly well mapped, despite the fact that the maps of all the continents except that of Europe, show blank spots or broken lines, indicating that the explorer has not yet finished his work.

By the men who went to school with him when he was still under his teens Hedin is still known by the nickname "Explorer." In Sweden, it seems, he is known as "The Explorer." He is a school youth of the land, who, when he was about the age of 10, must tell their teachers what he had learned in mathematics or the classics for the remainder of their school days; and the boys are expected to voluntarily what line of work they intend to follow in their reach man's estate. In Hedin's case, the choice was made for him when he was still a school youth of the land, who, when he was about the age of 10, must tell their teachers what he had learned in mathematics or the classics for the remainder of their school days; and the boys are expected to voluntarily what line of work they intend to follow in their reach man's estate. In Hedin's case, the choice was made for him when he was still a school youth of the land, who, when he was about the age of 10, must tell their teachers what he had learned in mathematics or the classics for the remainder of their school days; and the boys are expected to voluntarily what line of work they intend to follow in their reach man's estate.



PEARY AND THE DOGS THAT TOOK HIM FARTEST NORTH

of it and Hedin is three years Nansen's junior. Equally as interesting as these statistics of early success is the fact that, every member of the quartet was what is called "well born." Peary comes of staunch old New England ancestry. The Duke of the Abruzzi, as practically every American learned last winter, is the father of the Italian throne. Nansen is the son of a well-known Norwegian advocate; Hedin's father is chief architect of Sweden's capital, Hedin himself, like the Duke, is still single. If ever he had a love romance, he has been successful in keeping the details from the public, a fact which the Abruzzi received what amount to a college education from numerous tutors. Among their educational accomplishments, the Duke and Nansen number that of languages; each is proficient in four. Hedin is master of an unusual list of languages, besides speaking and writing French and German fluently, he speaks Chinese and Tibetan, and these tongues being picked up by him when he was a tutor at Baku, on the Caspian, he has traveled further and carried him still further away from the folds of his native land, he got a good knowledge of Chinese and Tibetan, and there is not a dialect spoken in or around the deserts of Asia of which he remains ignorant.

When Hedin went down to the shores of the Caspian to be tutor to the children of the brother of the late Alfred Nobel, inventor of dynamite and founder of the Nobel prizes, he had formed no definite idea of just what portion of the earth he some day would explore. But he had not been teaching long before he saw the realization of the fact that though Asia is popularly supposed to be the most unexplored territory of the world and his work, great stretches of it were unexplored. Hedin at once saw his opportunity and began to prepare for grasping it by studying Russian and the native languages of Western and Central Asia. Then, as he traveled further and further east through Central Asia, making the great deserts peculiarly his own, he came naturally under the spell of Tibet, and was not content until he had penetrated to the very heart of that long-guarded land of the Dalai Lama.

Hedin was a mere youth in years when he first set out on his expedition, which went through Persia and Mesopotamia, with his savings from his position, as tutor. This sum amounted to less than \$50. At Kermanshah, about 450 miles from the Gulf of Euxine, a bird rife, Hedin found himself penniless, and sought out the English agent in Persia, a wealthy Arabian merchant, in Persia. Incidentally, he told the old fellow that he was bound for the Caucasus. Charles XII. Now, all Islam knows of the deeds of that great Swedish King, so no sooner had he spoken his name than the Arabian began showering him with honors. He put his house at the young Swede's disposal, ministered unthily to his smallest need, and when the expedition was ready to start, he discovered with a bulging sack of silver and a picturesque guard of honor.

The Duke of the Abruzzi is said to have spent a fortune on his three great exploring expeditions; their combined cost has been set down at a quarter of



AMUNDSEN (AT LEFT) AND THE CREW THAT MADE THE NORTHWEST PASSAGE WITH HIM.

Nansen's captain in the Fram. Nansen desired that full credit should go to the burly captain for his share in the success of the expedition, and while telling his friends that the expedition would have been a failure without the presence of Sverdrup, he grabbed the latter in his arms and literally held him aloft that all might get a good look at him.

A native of the little duchy of an island called Heligoland, away up in the North Sea, and the only distinguished person among the 1000 inhabitants of Sverdrup, he was a true son of the sea, having gone down to it in ships since he was 17; today he is 63 years old, and has spent most of his life in making his name nearly 30 years ago, when, as mate of a ship, he was the west coast of Scotland, his work saved the entire crew from a watery grave. Next, his sails turned up in the news when the companion Nansen on his trip across Greenland. Then he was Nansen's captain on the dash for the pole; and he came very much before the public eye when he himself took the Fram to the North Pole, in 1896, and it was he that he remained there, made important land discoveries.

Explorers of today in Sverdrup's class of fame, which, with propriety, might be called secondary, are rather numerous. Prominent among them is Dr. Frederic A. Cook, of Brooklyn, now searching for the North Pole. Even now he may be making his dash for it, as he planned to do some time this summer. Dr. Cook first in the Arctic, in the Belgica, the first vessel to pass through the Antarctic night. Dr. Cook's present expedition is the result of a hunting trip taken with his backer on the latter's schooner yacht. When the hunting party reached polar waters, polar fever claimed the doctor, and the hook of it was that his guest agreed to back him financially in a dash—and a short time after that the intrepid Brooklynite was off. Next to Peary, he is doubtless America's best-known living explorer.

Only 25 when, five years ago, he planted the furthest south the Union Jack given him for that purpose by Queen Alexandra, Ernest H. Shackleton is again in the Arctic, with the avowed object of making a dash for the South Pole next month. On this dash he hopes to carry his provisions in a motor car, a queer contrivance which has skis in front and ice-gripping wheels in the rear. Shackleton is the only Irishman of any prominence among today's explorers, and when first in the Antarctic, he showed an Irishman's pluck by allowing himself to be harnessed to a sledges while suffering from snow blindness. Thus laboring and in this condition he attained the furthest south with the party. Had Shackleton performed his heroic deeds in the Arctic and there made further north, his name would doubtless have become as familiar as Peary's or Nansen's.

Dr. Jean Charcot, who headed the first

French expedition ever to winter in the Antarctic and is planning another trip to that region, like Peary had a boy's desire to become an explorer. But his father wanted him to follow in his footsteps and become a great scientist. He had won quite a reputation as a medical scientist, and his father's death occurred; then immediately he gave up his scientific work and spent several years in the Antarctic, where he was undertaking the purpose of rescuing the Otto Nordenskiöld expedition, which left civilization behind in 1902. The Argentine Republic's expedition, however, got to the Norwegian first, and then Charcot and his expedition spent their time making explorations, many of which were important.

Henry Arctowski, one of the leaders of the Belgica Antarctic expedition, and who is planning to return to the Antarctic next year, should prove interesting to Americans, not only because of his exploits in an American girl, who was studying music in Paris when she and the Belgian fell in love with each other. Adrian de Gerlache, who was Arctowski's superior when he spent several years in the Arctic, and he and Arctowski, when they returned to Brussels, were loaded with honors; their expedition being the first in years to accomplish anything worth while in the Antarctic.

Road Amundsen, who recently traveled across this country after locating the magnetic pole and reaching the North Pole in the frozen wastes of the North; Walter Wilman, Anthony Fiala and Evelyn Eakin, who led the Ziegler expeditions to the pole, and the Duke of Orleans, who has to his credit important discoveries in and about Nova Zembla—these are among the more important Arctic explorers who have heard from, as explorers, from time to time.

Another explorer with royal blood in his veins is none other than the noted anarchist, Prince Peter Kropotkin. To him the world is deeply indebted for the mapping of great portions of Manchuria, and other regions in the Far East. He, too, made important discoveries in Finland, and, altogether, was well started on a career of exploration that might have made him world-famous, when he became a convert to anarchism—after which he spent several years in Russian fortresses, escaped, was pursued from one country to another for his views and at last he spent several years in England, where he has lived in comparative peace ever since.

To look at Kropotkin no one would ever take him for an anarchist, and his voice and every action, as mild as he is met socially, are as mild as his physical appearance. Indeed, every inch of him looks like the refined, well-bred, well-to-do, and is leading the life of a very well-behaved country gentleman and erudite scholar.

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