

STORY OF 1909

Important Events at Home and Abroad.

THE NORTH POLE REACHED

Happenings the World Over Classified—Political and Personal Affairs, Sporting Contests, Accidents Due to Storms, Floods and Earthquakes—Conventions and Items of Miscellaneous Interest.

POLITICAL AND PERSONAL

JANUARY.

1. The president's special message on the secret service rejected by the house of representatives.
2. Secretary of State Elihu Root elected United States senator by the New York legislature. Gen. Jose Miguez Gomez proclaimed president of Cuba.
3. Governor General Magoon formally turned over the government of Cuba to President Gomez.

FEBRUARY.

1. President Elect William H. Taft formally opened the Pacific end of the Panama canal.
2. France and Germany signed a Morocco pact. King Edward VII. received in Berlin, the first visit of a British king to the German capital in 184 years.

MARCH.

1. Inauguration of W. H. Taft as twenty-seventh president of the United States. 60th congress ended.
2. President Taft nominated his cabinet officers as follows:

Philander C. Knox, secretary of state; Franklin MacVeagh, the treasury; Jacob M. Dickinson, war; George von L. Meyer, navy; R. A. Ballinger, interior; James Wilson, agriculture; Charles Nagel, commerce and labor; Frank H. Hitchcock, postmaster general; George W. Wick-ersham, attorney general.



President Taft. Copyright, 1908, by Pach Bros

3. Special session of the 61st congress opened; Joseph G. Cannon elected speaker of the house.
4. Tariff bill framed by the Republican members of the ways and means committee of congress introduced in the house by Sereno E. Payne, chairman of the committee.
5. Ex-President Theodore Roosevelt sailed from New York for Naples on the Hamburg-American liner Hamburg.
6. An agreement reached by Austria and Serbia effecting peace in the Balkans.

APRIL.

1. The last of the United States troops left Cuba.
2. The Payne tariff bill passed the house by a vote of 217 to 61.
3. Turkish garrison in Constantinople mutinied and expelled the Young Turks ministry.
4. Ultimatum of Young Turks to parliament.
5. The Young Turks gained complete control of Constantinople, making the Sultan Abdul Hamid prisoner in his palace.
6. Abdul Hamid II., sultan of Turkey, formally deposed by the Constitutional party and his brother, Mohammed Reschad, chosen successor.
7. 20 leaders of the army mutiny of April 13 in Constantinople executed for conspiracy.

MAY.

1. Mohammed V., Turkey's new sultan, invested with the sword of sovereignty at Constantinople.
2. Gen. Stoessel and Admiral Nebogatoff, who were serving sentences for neglect of duty in the late war, pardoned by the czar.
3. Dr. Charles William Elliot retired from the presidency of Harvard after 40 years' service.
4. Abbott Lawrence Lowell assumed the presidency of Harvard university.

JULY.

1. The senate passed its amended tariff bill by a vote of 45 to 34.
2. Riotous Bolivians attacked the Argentine legation at La Paz in protest against Argentina's decision in the Peruvian boundary dispute.
3. Prince von Bulow, chancellor of the German empire, retired from office and was succeeded by Dr. von Bethmann-Hollweg. Royal troops of Persia defeated by the Nationalists at Teheran.
4. Diplomatic relations severed between Bolivia and the Argentine Republic upon the initiation of Argentina.
5. An anti-Diaz political riot at Guadalupe, Mexico, resulted in wrecking the town. Anti-Moroccan war riot in Barcelona, Spain.

AUGUST.

1. The Russian Emperor Nicholas received as the guest of King Edward VII. of England at Cowes.
2. The Payne tariff bill finally passed the senate; congress adjourned.
3. Samuel R. Van Zandt, ex-governor of Minnesota, elected commander in chief of the G. A. R. at Salt Lake City.

SEPTEMBER.

1. Dr. Frederick A. Cook announced the discovery by him of the north pole on April 21, 1908.
2. Peary cabled from Indian Harbor, Labrador, that he reached the north pole April 6, 1909.
3. President Taft started from Boston on his 12,000 mile trip. Marriage at Dingwall, Scotland, of Miss Anita Stewart of New York to Prince Miguel of Braganza, a claimant to the throne of Portugal.

OCTOBER.

1. American minister to China, Charles R. Crane, recalled from his mission by the secretary of state.
2. Meeting of the provincial assemblies of China under the new constitutional program. Prof. Francisco Ferrer, Spanish revolutionary teacher, executed at Barcelona.
3. President Taft and President Diaz of Mexico met at El Paso, Tex.
4. Cabinet crisis in Spain, result of the execution of Prof. Ferrer, the revolutionist, on Oct. 13.
5. Czar Nicholas made a triumphal entry into Italy, guest of King Victor Emmanuel.

NOVEMBER.

1. Judge William J. Gaynor elected mayor of New York on the Democratic ticket; election a general reverse for Tammany Hall. Municipal reform defeated in San Francisco. Tom Johnson beaten by Herman Baehr in Cleveland mayoralty election.
2. Gold medal voted to Peary for having reached the north pole by the National Geographic society.

23. President Taft reached Washington at the end of his trip.
 24. British house of lords rejected the Liberal budget by a vote of 350 to 75.
- DECEMBER:
1. The state department handed Senor Rodriguez, Nicaraguan charge d'affaires in Washington, his passports, virtually demanding the organization of a new government to replace Zelaya's.
 2. Regular session 61st congress opened. William J. Calhoun of Chicago appointed minister to China.
 3. President Taft's first annual message presented to the congress.
 4. Judge H. H. Lurton appointed justice of the United States supreme court.
 5. President Zelaya placed his resignation in the hands of the Nicaraguan congress.
 6. Prince Albert formally succeeded to the Belgian throne.