

# What was happening during Nansen's lifetime (1861-1930)?

**1880's – Ages 21-30** Early part of *Gilded Age*

*Ill fated Greely polar expedition*

*Nansen's first research cruise on sealer Viking 1882*

*Robert Peary's 2 expeditions in Greenland in 1886 and 1891*

*PhD Thesis completed in 1887*

Nansen crossed Greenland in summer 1888



**1890's – Ages 31-40**

Economic Panic of 1893

Gold Rush in Alaska

Radioactivity and X-Rays discovered

Nansen observed rightward deflection of ice leading to

Ekman Spiral in 1893 Theory

Nansen's Farthest North expedition on Fram 1893-1896

(record lasted 5 years)

Solomon Andree's disastrous balloon flight toward N. Pole 1897

Otto Sverdrup's Fram expedition in Canadian Arctic 1898-1902

Nansen helped establish Int. Council for the Exploration

of the Sea in 1899 (still a major organization)

