

CARL AKELEY'S WIFE Brave Woman Charged by Buffaloes

ALONE IN THE REALM OF THE PYGMIES

Mrs Carl Akeley has returned from her fourth expedition to the wildest parts of Africa.

She is, as C.N. readers know, carrying on the work of her husband, the well-known naturalist and explorer, who died in Africa a few years ago. The C.N. has often told of the adventures of this brave pair, and many readers will be glad to know that Mrs Akeley is safely back.

On this last trip she has not had any adventure quite so terrible as that which befell her on that day when the native servants strolled back to camp saying "Elephant strike master," but she came very near to her end when she was charged by a herd of red buffaloes.

Quick Thinking in Emergency

There was no meat for her servants, and Mrs Akeley went off to hunt. On the edge of the forest she shot a buck, and the noise of the shot brought a herd of buffaloes into the open, charging at her. She raised her rifle, confident of being able to kill the leader, and sure that the others would turn as he fell.

But the rifle refused to fire. Long experience in the wilds has taught Mrs Akeley to think quickly, and she dashed behind a tree while the herd went thundering by.

Had there been no tree she would have been trampled to death.

When the danger was over she investigated the failure of her shot and found that the firm which had equipped her for this expedition to the Congo had sold her ammunition 20 years old!

Besides that peril, Mrs Akeley faced three attacks of fever on her last trip. But she is going back.

A Shy Little People

Her last expedition was for the Brooklyn Museum, and her object was to make moving-picture records of the pygmies who live in the Ituri Forest, to take measurements of them, and to learn more of their customs.

On a previous expedition this solitary white woman induced these shy little people to let her live with them for three months, but this time she stayed nearly a year in their forest villages.

She has found that the babies of the pygmies are normal size, but stop growing when they are about four feet high. No one knows why. They must be almost the poorest people in the world, for they have neither clothes, money, nor furniture. Yet in spite of it, or perhaps because of it, they are a merry little people.

A TOWN FROM A RUBBISH HEAP

The extraordinary news comes from the United States that near Chicago a body of unemployed men are building themselves a village entirely from waste and rubbish.

They are "annoying the Government" by calling the little town Hooverville, and they have elected a mayor, who lives in a ramshackle shanty.

Those who imagine America to be made up of palatial skyscrapers will wonder where the Chicago unemployed obtain their materials, but the fact is that only a small minority of American buildings are skyscrapers. The greater number of Americans live in small wooden houses.

The outskirts of all big American cities are very untidy, and it is quite common to come across heaps of ruined buildings and abandoned shanties. It is from such waste that the unemployed of Chicago have been able to build their funny little mock town.

THE GIRL'S BOOK A Bunch of Annuals

We wish we could feel that girls were reading more than ever, as is sometimes said, but certainly they never had so many things to read.

Among the excellent annuals specially prepared for girls the Schoolgirl's Own (6s) holds a leading place. It is a volume of fine stories by well-known girl's writers—school and historical stories, adventures at home and abroad, stories of the circus, of Girl Guides, and so on. Then there are plays and music and poems, games and tricks and hints, articles on such subjects as bathing and photography, and many other topics. The whole volume is beautifully illustrated with a profusion of black-and-white pictures, and a number of fine coloured plates.

For the Schoolgirl of Today

Another splendid girl's book is the School Friend Annual (6s). Here are stories of all kinds for the modern schoolgirl. Whatever kind of story she may like she will find here. There are also plays and poems and music and articles on such subjects as the auto-graph album, holiday bathing, character, tongue twisters, and so on. The book is fully illustrated in black-and-white and colour, and is most attractive.

The British Girl's Annual (5s) has not only a large number of stirring short stories, but a long school story in eight chapters full of incident and exciting situations. It is the story of a Christmas play, and will interest all girls. In this annual girl interests and activities of all sorts are dealt with. There is a chapter on sports and pastimes on board ship, describing a jolly holiday on the water. Mr H. Mortimer Batten writes on Why he is a Naturalist, and the Nature lover will find another chapter of great interest by Violet M. Methley, giving many valuable hints on keeping fish and reptiles. The book has scores of illustrations, some in colour.

A Beautiful Nature Book

The Golden Annual for Girls (4s 6d) is another splendid gift book, with scores of illustrations. It is full of stories of all kinds, many of them school tales.

A wonderful half-crown's worth is the Popular Book of Girl's Stories, which has a large number of tales introducing heroines who have endeared themselves to all girls.

The New Nature Book (6s) is about animals, a beautiful volume profusely illustrated, written by expert naturalists. Here are thrilling animal stories, extraordinary and out-of-the-way information about birds, beasts, and fishes, suitable for girls of all ages.

Rarely has a finer set of annuals for girls been produced than this group. You can order any of them from your newsagent.

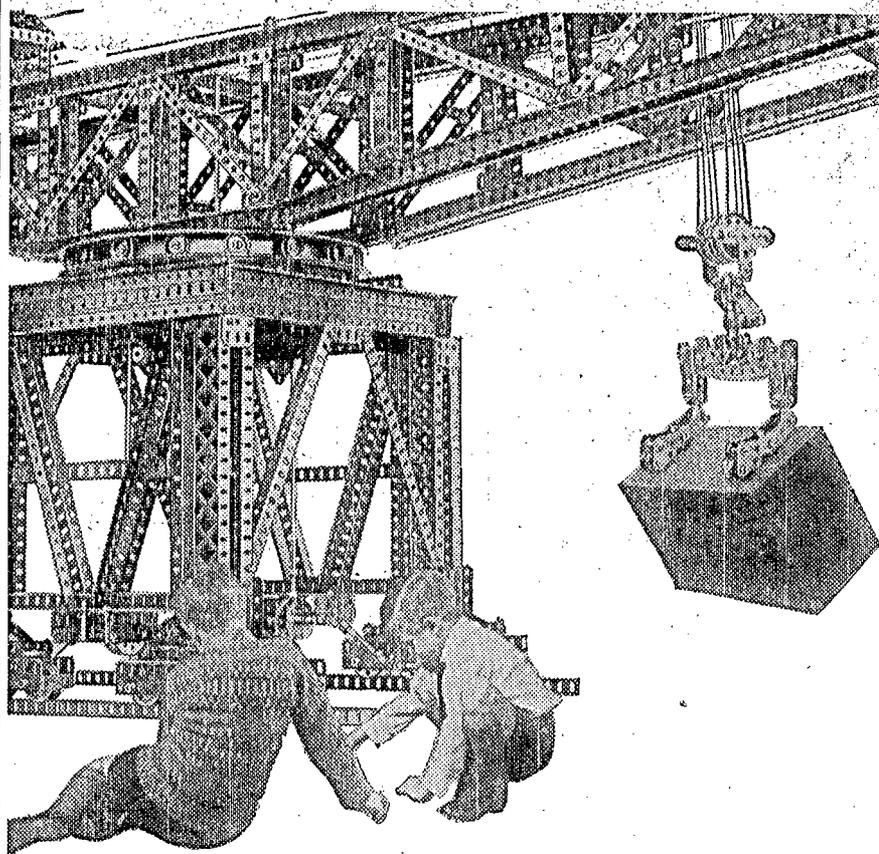
POLAND'S DICTATOR Through Force to Power

The Dictator of Poland, Marshal Pilsudski, has now a majority of 100 in the Polish Parliament.

Reports from Poland state that the election was conducted by Pilsudski's Government in a manner that should be impossible in a free republic. Intimidation and fraud appear to have been rife and many German citizens were prevented from voting.

When Pilsudski, supported by the army, made his dramatic coup in 1926, he had only six followers in Parliament. He won 130 seats in the Parliament of 1928 with the result that there was a deadlock, and no important Bills could be passed.

The Marshal was determined to have a majority so that he could get things done. It remains to be seen if the new Parliament will be effective in this way.



THIS IS MECCANO WEEK!

For every boy who wants Meccano—for every boy who has Meccano—this is the greatest week of the year! Dealers everywhere are making special displays of new models in their windows and in their stores. Go and see them to-day! See for yourself the finest hobby in the world for boys, and think of all the thrilling engineering models you could build with Meccano—a different one for every day in the year!

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