

BUTLER WRITES FROM BELGIAN CONGO

FORMER LITTLE FALLS BOY TELLS OF COUNTRY HE HAS BEEN EXPLORING

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with brilliant plumage. One some times sees an elephant or two on the bank also.

Basoka is an old state post and there are still remnants of an old fort there, used at the time when the Belgians and English drove the Arab traders out of the country. Basoka is the post of the Commissioner of the Aruwimi District. At Stanleyville I went by a small steamer to Yambuya, a trip of two days. Yambuya is an old post of Stanley's. From here I started to Banalia with dug-outs up the Aruwimi River, a trip of six days. Owing to the many rapids in the Aruwimi I had a steam boat can go no further up stream than Yambuya. I left Yambuya one morning with three large dug-outs. I was in one dug-out with some of my supplies and the other two dug-outs were loaded with supplies. Each dug-out had ten native paddlers and a man that beat a tom-tom continually to keep the paddlers in time. It is necessary for natives to sing and make a lot of noise in order to work well. If they make plenty noise they work hard and forget they are having a hard time. Otherwise they lament the fact that they have to work. The first day out of Yambuya it was necessary to cross a bad rapid. The dug-outs were in and one of the others got through alright, but the third struck a big rock and the current drove the dug-out against another rock and the dug-out broke in two pieces and all my baggage went to the bottom of the river. The paddlers were all killed and then called other natives and finally fished everything out of the river. Many of my supplies, such as mechanical instruments were practically ruined and I had to spend a day on the river bank adjusting my instruments and clothing. I obtained another dug-out and continued on to Banalia with no further mishaps. In all I had three white men, a state man, a priest and a trader. I prospecting in that region for six months and then moved on towards a post called Medie. This is a post of the Belgian overland. I rode in a hammock carried by eight natives. In all I had some two hundred natives, many boxes and various supplies. With a caravan like that one generally travels about five hours each morning. In each village the native chief appears and makes you a present of some chickens and eggs. The value of the present to him will more than equal the value of the chickens and eggs. From Medie I traveled to the source of the Nava River. After being in that region for a short time I received a cable from Europe to look over the region to the south and southwest of Avakubi. This was a journey of over three weeks and I had to travel from where I was. I made the journey in the usual fashion as the natives do. I traveled in a tepo as it is called here. I finally arrived at a little village called Banana inhabited by old Arab slaves or Mongwana natives as they are known here. At this point I sent men ahead to a trail to the south towards the Ituri River and I followed with the porters. The first day in the bush I came on a camp composed of pygmies, some two hundred of them. I was right behind the men with the knives who were cutting the trail and we surprised the pygmies. They did not know we were any where near by. They all jumped to their feet and saluted and one of them who could talk Swahili offered to give me a couple of his men as guides. These two men arrived with me that evening where I pitched my tent and made camp but said they would return to their village that evening and return with meat for me the next day. The next day I saw nothing of the pygmies and the next day I returned to their camp to look over some streams and found that they had deserted their village. This region I was in is part of what is known as the Ituri Forest and it is one mass of trees, vines and brush. You cannot see ahead of you into the bush for more than two or three feet at the most. This place is inhabited by pygmies only. The larger natives are on the big trails built by the government. I was in this part of the big forest for nearly three years. It was over a year after I passed through the pygmy village before I saw another pygmy. The pygmy as a rule has very little to do with a white man. They pay no taxes because the tax collector never sees them. My first ten months in this forest I did not see a white person. I made arrangements with the Mongwana natives on the trail to bring bananas, rice, manioc, etc. in to my camp for my workmen and chickens and eggs for myself, as the pygmies have no plantations and seldom any fowls. After ten days I was joined by another white man, Mr. Smith, an American engineer. We worked together for a few months and Mr. Smith returned to Europe leaving me alone again. Shortly after this I received orders to start exploration in the region I was in. I had about a hundred native workmen to stay with me and a hundred natives with their families consume a good many bananas and other kinds of food. I made arrangements with the Mongwana for the bananas, rice, manioc, etc. but for meat it was necessary to make arrangements with the pygmies if possible as that is their principal occupation, hunting. I had almost given up trying to get in communication with them when one day five of these little natives appeared in the camp. They said that they had heard my bugle and came to see what I was doing. Each man carried a spear and a bow with arrows. One of them turned out to be the chief of quite a large tribe of pygmies in the vicinity. He also talked good Swahili. I asked him why he did not bring me meat and he said he would talk the matter over with his men that evening. I gave him some salt, which is highly prized by the natives and a few other little things and he said he would return in the morning with some native honey for me. In the evening he returned with three large clay pots filled with honey and informed me that he was willing to get in hunting nets, spears, etc. and that his men were willing to hunt for me for a month. He said he would return in three days and I was sure enough he did. Then he said he wanted a day to fix up a camp and that the third day he would bring me meat. The third day he arrived with three antelopes about the size of goats and alive, not dead. The antelopes are trapped in nets and caught and their feet tied. Some times they make a fight and the pygmy spears them but generally they are caught alive. After that I had no trouble about meat. The pygmies brought in antelopes, wild pigs, etc., every day and two more pygmy chiefs arrived with their hunters and hunters for me also. These pygmies stayed and hunted for me until about eight months later when I was joined by another white man. At this time they disappeared. I sent word to them to come back and tell me why they had left me and they came back and told me that they were afraid he might want them to work with a shovel in the creek as the workmen were doing. I finally assured them that this was no such case and they returned and hunted for me again. Several times state officials wrote asking me to ask the pygmies to bring them meat but invariably the pygmy would say, "no, if I do that the government man will ask me to pay my taxes, and I do not want to be a slave." The pygmy is very interesting and I had good opportunity to watch him as he gained their confidence. They are three and a half to four feet in height and built proportionately. They are not like the dwarf's one sees in circuses with large heads or other deformities but well built. I do not know that the pygmies in all sections have the same habits or not, but in this section of the country they never live for more than one month, or one moon as they say in the same camp. They say that if they stay longer they will all get sick and die. There may be a little truth to this as they are not too clean in their villages. They plant nothing whatever as they never are in one place long enough to do so. They eat nuts, leaves and roots that they gather in the forest and the meat they kill. These pygmies are very adept at killing elephants. They sometimes cut the cords in the elephant's hind legs. As the elephant is a very heavy animal it is difficult for him to move very fast after this has been done and the pygmies

start drilling a large river here soon. I have been waiting for some Empire drills for some time now and they have not arrived.

I enclose a few stamps of the Congo which may be of interest to you. There is an aeroplane service between Kinshasa and Stanleyville at the present time. I think they have considerable difficulty with it though.

With kindest regards to you, I remain,

Sincerely yours,
W. V. Butler.
Ingenieur de la Forimiere,
Niagara, Congo Belge.

Word was received here of the death of John Peschel of Buckman at the advanced age of 94 years. Mr. Peschel was one of the early settlers of Buckman township. He was the father of Mrs. John Schmolek of Buckman and Mrs. C. G. Benson of Lakota, N. D.

American Legion Corner

HATS OFF!
A flash of color beneath the sky!
A flash of color beneath the sky!
Blue and crimson and white it shines
Over the steel-tipped ordered lines.
Hats off! The colors before us fly!
But more than the flag is passing by!
Sign of a nation, great and strong,
To ward her people from foreign wrong;
Pride and glory, honor all,
Live in the colors to stand or fall!
Hats off! Along the street there comes
A blare of bugles, a ruffle of drums;
And loyal hearts are beating high;
Hats off! The flag is passing by!

In a recent address, Judge Freeman of Chisholm, Minnesota said: "It is my hope that the cities of the Mesaba Iron Range will include the different national groups in their Fourth of July celebration, giving special place to each group. It would be a means of helping them to feel that this is their country and that they are

Come and Gone

Miss Lucille Lasky has returned from St. Paul, where she was employed. Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Gwosdz of Swan River visited friends in St. Cloud Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. W. T. Reid and daughter Nina of Staples visited relatives in this city Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Lyle Martin and Miss Maud Martin of Minneapolis were in the city Saturday visiting Mr. and Mrs. J. K. Martini, enroute to Sentinel Butte, N. D.

Mr. Fred King and little daughter visited at the Chas. Tanner home the past week. She left Monday for Cloquet, where she will join her husband, who is employed there.

Mayor Berghelm, City Clerk Andrew Johnson and Aldermen Geo. H. Peterson and Geo. F. Moeglein, Sr., returned Friday from Crookston, where they attended the annual meeting of the Minnesota League of Municipalities.

Mr. and Mrs. Jos. LaFond were in Minneapolis the latter part of last week visiting their daughters Evelyn and Eva.

N. F. Nelson of Minneapolis arrived Friday for a visit with his son, Palmer Nelson, proprietor of the Buckman hotel.

Irving Smecker and Carlisle Hennon visited friends in Long Prairie Friday.

Mrs. P. J. Donnelly and children returned to Minneapolis Saturday, after a visit with Mrs. Donnelly's sister, Mrs. N. J. Peterson.

Henry Thompson and Winford Johnson returned to Minneapolis Monday, after a week's outing at Lake Alexander.

Mr. and Mrs. Philip Martineau of Iowa are here visiting Mrs. Martineau's parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Larson and other relatives. They expect to remain for some time.

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not outsiders, and it would establish in their minds the important part they have to play in the life of this nation."

A song for our banner! The watchword recall, which gave the Republic her station. "United we stand—divided we fall!"—It made and preserves us a nation. The union of lakes, the union of lands, the union of states none can sever—"The union of hearts, the union of hands; The Flag of our Union, Forever!"

"We are not waiting for July First to get new members for the Legion," writes Adjutant Louis Doerr of Scharmer-Berger Post No. 250 of Arlington, Minnesota. "We believe every day should be July First for every American Legion Post." Hardly a day passes that fails to bring one or two new memberships to Gopher Legion Headquarters from Adjutant Doerr. In this connection, the Legion Weekly will present \$500, to the Legionaires who enroll most members in connection with Legion National Membership Day—July First. Prizes of \$250 and \$100, to the next best Legion member-getter. Legion Auxiliary members will also help out, and the three who get most Legion members will be awarded \$200, \$100 and \$50 respectively. And in addition, to each Minnesota district the

Gopher gang is presenting a silver loving cup to be awarded to the post with in each district which enrolls most Legionaires on July First.—Legion National Membership Day!



Mrs. John Grest and children visited relatives at Pierz over Sunday.

ALLURING TOURS

AT LOW COST
Round Trip To

Yellowstone Park \$46.20
North Pacific Coast 72.00

Two Steel Trains Daily to the West

Northern Pacific Ry.

F. C. RUTH, Little Falls Agent

Simply delicious!

Kellogg's Corn Flakes with strawberries

Such a feast for a warm morning's breakfast—Kellogg's Corn Flakes and strawberries and a big pitcher of cold milk or cream—why, it's a revelation as an appetizer and so satisfying! Just as wonderful for lunch or for between-times nibbles!

And, best of all—Kellogg's Corn Flakes and fruit are exactly the food you should eat for warm weather! You'll feel so much cheerier, so free from drowsiness and headaches if you'll keep away from the heavy foods this summer!

Let the children eat all they want! For, Kellogg's digest easily and rest the stomach and supply nourishment!



Kellogg's CORN FLAKES

A MODERN AND COMPLETE BANK

THE ROAD TO ALL THAT'S BEST

is the road of industry and thrift—a sunlit path where honest men step steadily ahead.

Each day brings new pleasures and added zest, new opportunities for progress.

On it there is plenty of light and love and happiness for those who plan and work and save.

This bank is the financial home for that kind of people. Why not join them?

Merchants State Bank
Little Falls, Minn.
THE BANK OF INSURED SAVINGS

SIMMONS BEDS

Built for Sleep

PRICES ALL CAN AFFORD

\$10.50 for This 100% Pure Cotton Felt Mattress, built up in layers and covered with heavy grade blue art figured tick, roll edge and full 50 lbs. weight. FULLY GUARANTEED.

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First Street Southeast

J.C. Penney Co.

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Broadway and First Street Little Falls, Minn.

GLORIOUS FOURTH

Values Thruout Our Store

Low prices mean unusual values only when the quality that goes with them is worthy. Some merchandise is never good value at any price. Only the merchandising power of this organization of 312 busy department stores makes it possible to offer values and prices of this kind, every day in the year.

July 4th 1776--1922

The 146th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence—next Tuesday—will find all J. C. Penney Company stores closed for the day.

Every patriotic son and daughter of this great "Land of the Free" and "Home of the Brave" should join in fittingly celebrating the occasion.

It is the greatest of all landmarks in the progress of our own beloved United States of America and the entire world.

May the "Spirit of 1776" be the "Spirit of 1922" on this year's birthday of our Country's freedom.

This store will be open for business Wednesday morning, July 5th.

New Felts
Men's Snappy Styles
"Marathon" Felt Hats. Variety of new shapes and popular colors; silk bands, genuine leather sweatbands. Splendid quality.
\$1.98
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Sizes 2 to 6
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Exceptional Value

A manufacturer made up thousands of these little two-piece pantie suits for children 2 to 6 years of age so as to permit us to offer them at a very small price. They come in an assortment of colored checked ginghams, a few well made and finished.

Khaki Rollers
For Hot Weather
Men's Khaki Hats: Optimo or Roller styles. Stitched brim; plain or screened fronts. All screens doubly protected with khaki tape, an exclusive J. C. Penney Co. feature.
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Organdie and Voile Dresses

THIS is the season of the year when the little Miss and the "almost Young Lady" looks her sweetest and best in one of these dainty, fairy-like frocks of Organdie or Voile.

Mothers will take particular pride and pleasure in selecting the styles most becoming to the little daughter for the materials are so fine and the workmanship so neat it is pleasing to know they can be purchased at such marvelously low prices.

Sizes 7 to 14 \$2.98
Sizes 12, 14, 16 \$4.98

These smart dresses are offered in both white and colored organdies and voiles; made in charming style effects that appeal to both small and larger girls; daintily trimmed and neatly made through. Styles that are very desirable for party, wear or school graduation. Our large quantity buying for 312 stores make these low prices possible.

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