

last you might hear. Come give the men a stirring.

T. A. C. C.

TELEGRAM. ST. CROIX STATION.

New Bedford, Mass., Dec. 7th.—Britannia Day was given special recognition in this city today, with a varied programme which included a welcome to the officers and men of H. M. S. Calcutta, flagship of the Bermuda squadron.

Athens, Dec. 8th.—The plans to have ex-King Constantine return to Greece this week, appeared today to have been abandoned. The decision of the Government apparently was to continue its wait and see policy with the tendency to leave the decision as to Constantine's return to the throne to the ex-King himself. The financial pressure of the British upon the Government, which as been exerted against the plan to restore Constantine appears to have become stronger. Ex-premier Cournaris, leader in the movement which led to the downfall of Premier Venizelos has appealed to Venizelist army officers to keep their posts.

Washington, Dec. 7th.—Both Houses were in brief session today, to hear President Wilson's annual message. It was read by the clerk, Mr. Wilson having held the advice of his physician, not to appear in person to present his recommendations. Galleries in both Senate and House were crowded. Both those drawn by the chance that the President might appear in person, or the possibility that his message might touch upon the League of Nations question, or his own approaching retirement to private life, were disappointed, as Mr. Wilson confined himself to domestic questions almost wholly.

London, Dec. 8th.—The Australian cricket team will visit England next year, according to word received here yesterday.

Washington, Dec. 8th.—Provisions of the National Prohibition Act extend to the United States ships, whether they be in home waters, on the high seas, or in foreign waters, Commissioner William of the Internal Revenue Dept. ruled today. Commissioner William's ruling based on opinion by Acting Attorney General Frierson, was sent to all collectors of internal revenue and Federal Prohibition Agents for their information and guidance.

Paris, Dec. 8th.—The Reparations Commission announced today that Germany must deliver to France and Belgium a total of 1,740,000 fowls within four years, 25,165 goats within three years and 15,250 pigs within one year. The German representatives have agreed to this programme. The Commission also announced that Germany has almost completed the delivery of the live-stock advances required under annex 4.

London, Dec. 8th. Government sup-

porters in the House of Commons yesterday were brought into line for the second reading of the dyestuffs Bill, against which irreconcilable free traders are making a dead set. Thursday will witness the debate on national expenditure, which, in view of the outcry for economy, must be important. It is expected that the estimates will have to be out all around, and the Govt. is being pressed to prevent any fresh schemes involving further expenditures. Mr. Austen Chamberlain, replying to a question on the subject, said that there was as yet no reason to anticipate any material variation from his estimate of 234,000,000 pounds sterling, stated to be the balance of the year's revenue and expenditure.

THE PYGMY DISCOVERED AGAIN.

A recent moving-picture expedition in Africa resulted in the reported discovery of a race of pygmies of such primitive characteristics that they are but little removed from ape men. They were found in the forests of the Belgian Congo by Dr. L. J. Vandenbergs, a Catholic missionary and anthropologist, whose exploration covered 11 months. It is claimed that adults of this pygmean race, known as the "Mambuti," average about four feet in height. The males can move with surprising agility through tree branches.

Although interesting as this bit of news may be, we hear of a strong denial from abroad. Lady Stanley, widow of the celebrated African explorer, Henry M. Stanley, asserts that her husband made the discovery as far back as 1888, while on his search for Enim Pasha. His book is cited in proof of her claim.

As a matter of fact, pygmies have been "discovered" and described since the time of Homer, the Greek poet of 1000 B. C. They were recorded as being ill-favored but very honest, which quality appears to have clung to them to this day. It is said that these pygmies neither lie nor steal and are strictly monogamous—virtues which would put some of our own race to shame.

The word "pygmy" comes from the Greek "pygme," representing the measure from the elbow to the hand. Ancient writers seemed to revel in making these dwarfs as small in stature and as fantastic as imagination would allow. Homer says that every spring they were attacked by the cranes on the coasts of Oceanus and were devoured. Later writers place them at the mouths of the Nile, in the region of Thule (or Ireland), and in subterranean dwellings on the eastern slope of the Ganges mountains.

It was said that they cut down every corn-ear with an axe; that when Hercules came into their country they climbed up his goblet by means of ladders

to drink from it; and while he was asleep two whole armies of them fell upon his right hand and two upon his left, but Hercules rolled them all in his lion's skin. Swift took this Grecian legend and brought forth his "Gulliver's Travels," which are the delight of every young boy or girl—although they were written as a political satire.

Aristotle did not believe that the stories about pygmies were utterly fabulous; his interpretation of them was that they were a diminutive tribe in upper Egypt who rode very small horses and lived in caves. Ctesias represented a nation of them as inhabiting India; Pliny placed them in transgnetic India.

Du Chaillu found pygmies in the mountainous country of the Ogobai. They are called Ohongos and about four and a half feet high. They lived in the midst of negro tribes of ordinary stature and subsist chiefly on animals food, but partly also on the roots, berries and nuts which they find in the forests. Schweinfurth between the years 1868 and 1871 came in contact with a pygmean race in the heart of Africa. There are also the Akka and Batwa pygmies in Central Africa.

The most recent discovery of "pygmies" was by President Wilson, when he found them in the U. S. senate, when the league of nations covenant was denounced and ratification prevented. "Pygmy" in this sense is figurative—a peason of small understanding or narrow intelligence—*The Pathfinder*.

AIRSHIP RISK SLIPT.

Air navigation will soon be so safe that timid people will prefer to spend their life in airship travel in preference to risking all dangers of staying at home. Out of almost 40,000 flights, in which 70,000 passengers were carried, during the first year of civil flying in England, only one person was killed. Over 100,000 pounds of freight was carried and \$1,000,000 worth of goods was imported from the continent by the air route.—*Ibid*.

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