Lowell Thomas Broadcast for Literary Digest February 17, 1931

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Good Evening, Everybody:

SPAIN

Things look darker than ever in 1 Spain tonight. Darker for King Alphonso. 2 The Associated Press reports that 3 the attempt to switch from a dictatorship 4 to a cabinet form of government has 5 failed -- failed, in spite of King 6 Alphonso's concessions. As I mentioned 7 last night King Alphonso called upon Senor 8 Sanchez Guerra to head the government. 9 Senor Guerra represents political elements 10 that want to make Spain an exceedingly 11 Democratic monarchy. Guerra tried to 12 line up enough support to govern the 13 country, but today he informed the King 14 that the Republicans and the Socialists 15 have refused to cooperate. So that plan 16 has fallen through. 17

According to the United Press, Senor Guerra advised the King to call upon an even more radical leader, Alvarez, by name, to take a shot at the difficult task of forming a ministry. But according to a lateⁿ International News Service dispatch, Alvarez has refused.

Meanwhile, there are reports that

6PAIN = 2

the Conservative elements are dissatisfied 1 because the King has yielded to the 2 Radicals. Some think that the army will 3 take a hand in the game. 4

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The United Press cables that the King has had a talk with one of his generals in which he declared he would step down 7 from his throne and leave Spain if he thought it for the good of the country.

Here is a still later International 10 News Service cables which reads: 11

"Censorship has been clamped on again. 12 All troops are being kept in barracks 13 ready for action. The Queen is hurrying 14 back from London and the report is that 15 the King will do nothing definite until 16 he talks things over with her. 17

Indications, are that will either 18 abdicate or establish another military 19 dictatorship in a last effort to save his 20 throne. 21

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GERMANY

A cable from Berlin this evening tells of a radical plan to deal with the unemployment situation in Germany. The Berlin correspondent of the New York Evening Post wires that the Berlin Government intends to provide jobs for the German jobless by initiating a five-day week. Emplyers not only will be required to put a five-day week in force among their workers they also will be required to employ enough new workers to keep the total number of working hours up to what it is now.

There are 16,000,000 people at work in Germany at present and 4,000,000 out of work. It is estimated and hoped that the five-day week will provide jobs for most of the 4,000,000 jobless. And that would solve Germany's most serious problem.

BERLIN

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I might announce this evening that we won't have any more news dispatches about troubled political conditions in Germany--that is, I might announce it if I took this next bit of news seriously enough.

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It states that the way to avoid revolutions is to give the people plenty of fresh vegetables to eat.

This new theory is propounded by 10 Dr. Dimkin, of Berlin, and hets an 11 authority on vitamines. The International 12 News Service quotes the Doctor as asking: 13 WHY DO PEOPLE USUALLY START REVOLUTIONS 14 IN MARCH? And then the Doctor answers: 15 BECAUSE THEY DON'T RECEIVE SUFFICIENT 16 VITAMINES DURING THE WINTER MONTHS. 17

He explains that people don't
get enough vitamines in the winter
because fresh vegetables are not plentiful
in the winter. The result is that when
spring comes around they're suffering
from indigestion. And indigestion
causes discontent.

Well, I suppose the German government

Page_3ª BERLIN - 2. will act on that hint and provide the Germany people with carloads and carloads of fresh vegetables--cabbage, for example, tons and tons of sauerkraut. And so of course there won't be any more revolutionary news Germany--maybe! 12-1-30-5M

INDIA

Two men held a momentous conference today in a brand new city out in a land of old cities. The two men were Lord Irwin, Viceroy of India and Mahatma Gandhi, the emaciated saint. They talked for four hours, while thousands of British officials and millions of swarthy Indians wondered what they were saying.

They were debating across a table in the hope of coming to some agreement about the future of India.

The Associated Press tells us that when Gandhi emerged from that conference he had a smile on his thin, care-worn face. "I am satisfied, even optimistic," he exclaimed. What the two men told each other is a closely guarded secret. Perhaps well hear more about it tomorrow.

This meeting is a fitting climax to the ceremonies which have just taken place the ceremonies, inaugurating the new hundred million dollar city of Delhi. I was in India while they were building that new city and it is a colossal thing. Miles of great buildings of red sandstone, wast halls of government palaces, hundreds of handsome bungalows, long streets of them. This is the new Capital which Great Britain has built there in the heart of India. It is called the new Delhi and it adjoins the old Delhi, the Capital of the magnificent Moguls.

The Plain of Delhi has always been a site of great capitol cities. Time after time Delhi has been the seat of an Empire that has decayed. This new Delhi is the seventh city. Six times before Delhi has been mighty and great - and then has fallen.

The Hindus declare that he who builds a new Delhi is always fated to perish in its ruins and for that reason the brown men of the East were saying whan I was there that the building of a new Delhi by the British was a sign of the coming collapse of the British Empire in India.

Well, I was with Clemenceau, the Old Tiger of France, one day when he visited this massive new city. His remark was:-"Perhaps this Delhi will be the greatest ruin of them all." Who knows?

CHURCHILL

I've an item here which tells of a
 picturesque European statesman whe is
 coming to America. In fact Americans may
 see a good deal of him next autumn-- and hear a good deal from him, too.

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Who is he? Well, he is that prodigious Englishman, Winston Churchill. And, he is coming over for a grand tour of America.

10 I'll never forget the impression
11 Churchill made on me when I first met
12 him. For years I had been hearing
13 fantastic stories about this spectacular
14 man who was the son of the famous Lord
15 Randolph Churchill, and the grandson
16 of the Duke of Marlborough.

I had heard of his adventures with 17 Kitchener in the Sudan; of his capture 18 and escapes in the Boer War, and of his 19 experiences on the Afghan Frontier in 20 India. I knew of his part in the World 21 War, that he had held nearly every office 22 in the British Cabinet. I knew that he 23 was a soldier, a brilliant writer, a 24 great statesman -- in fact, the most 25

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versatile man in England.

And, when he came to call on me in London -- Well I half expected to encounter a roaring lion, or something of the sort.

He wasn't that way. at at . But he was impressive all the same.

He's a huge fellow, with stopped 8 9 shoulders. He has a head and neck that would took well on a prizefighter. 10 shoulders. The curious thing was when 11 he talked. He's one of the most 12 brilliant public speakers of our time, 13 and I was rather startled when he spoke. 14 He talked with a decided lisp. But that 15 was only for an instant. As he warms 16 up to his subject, the lisp disappears 17 and the eloquence pours out. 18

Well, Winston Churchill's
approaching visit to the United States
is the result of political happenings
in Great Britain. Churchill, always one
of the leading figures in the Conservative
Party, has broken with his party this time
over the question of India. He's playing

CHURCHILL - 3

a lone hand now, and that gives him a bit of leisure. So he's going to use that leisure for what is a favorite amusement of English notables -- which is -- coming to America for a lecture tour.

It will be a spectacular tour, I'll lay a wager on that.

BONUS

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There's nothing new on the Bonus Bill situation tonight. It's being discussed by the Senate Committee. The International News Service reports that it may not come up for a vote in the Senate for several, days.

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Another news item from Washington 7 tells us that an increase in postal 8 rates is in sight. The United Press 9 informs us that President Hoover will 10 soon send a message to Congress pointing 11 out that the Post Office Department will 12 be facing a deficit of a hundred million 13 dollars this year, and that something 14 will have to be done. And that something 15 will be to charge more for sending matter 16 through the mails. 17

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ROBBERY

Word came in today of an exciting robbery on a train in Georgia. 7 passengers were lounging in the observation car of the Crescent Limited as it thundered through the night. In walked a man with a gun in each hand. HANDS UP! he demanded. Keeping at a safe distance from the passengers the bandit ordered a negro boy on the train to collect all the valuables. He didn't get much -- about \$300.

Then, according to the Associated Press, the robber pulled the emergency cord, as the train slowed down he jumped off. The alarm was given and a railroad flagman opened fire on the fleeing robber. There was an exchange of shots, but the bandit vanished.

But there will be no cross atreats. There will be no alleys. All streats will lead to the apex of the triangle and at that apex will be the civic center. The intention is to try and avoid the mistakes that have been made in haphazard building of towns and citles all over the world. NEW_CITY

Page 11

Out in the Nevada Desert they are getting ready to build a new city. It is to be shaped like a triangle, entirely different from any other city ever built. It is to take care of the vast army of men, and their wives and children who will be connected with the giant Hoover dam, the world's greatest reclamation project.

A The United Press dispatch states that the building of this full grown city is to be placed in the hands of a Denver engineer, a Mr. DeBoer. It will be called Boulder City. He will build it complete, with homes, churches, schools, and the homes, playgrounds, hospitals and business buildings, right in the midst of the white hot sands of the desert.

But there will be no cross streets. There will be no alleys. All streets will lead to the apex of the triangle and at that apex will be the civic center. The intention is to try and avoid the mistakes that have been made in haphazard building of towns and cities all over the world.

2-1-31-5M

Now, let's see. This item is about a cow going to school. No, not a cow going to school to learn, but a cow going to school to teach.

According to the Associated Press, the Board of Education in Los Angeles has discovered that 25% of the school children out there have never seen a cow, and 50% have never seen a calf. So the Board of Education has made arrangements for the kids to have a chance to see both a cow and a calf.

Each day a truck drives in from out of town, and in that truck are a cow and two calves. It makes the rounds of the schools and the youngsters come out and take a look at the sight of the strange animals. I suppose they find old Bossy and her horns as weird as the fabled unicorn or hippogriff.

IOPICS IN BRIEF

Remember the old saying of Vice-1 President Marshall's that what the 2 country needs is a good five cent cigar? 3 Well, the new Literary Digest, which 4 will be on the stands tomorrow, quotes 5 the Publishers Syndicate as saying: THAT 6 ANOTHER THING THIS COUNTRY NEEDS IS A 7 GOOD FIVE CENT TIP. Welt, I agree with 8 that, and will add that this country also 9 needs, a lot of taxi drivers, and waiters, 10 and porters who'll take a five cent tip-11 with a smile. 12

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The talkies are coming in for a 13 lot of digs these days. Here's one which 14 THAT IMAGINATION IS WHAT YOU NEED savs: 15 WHEN A FRENCH KING IN A TALKIE SPEAKS 16 WITH A KANSAS IMITATION OF COCKNEY. The 17 Digest quotes that one from the Muskogee 18 Phoenix. And it goes on to tell us that 19 the Nashville Banner has a comment to 20 make upon Sir Hubert Wilkin's submarine 21 expedition under the ice to the North 22 SIR HUBERT WILKINS IS SELECTING Pole: 23 HIS CREW , WE HAVE SEVERAL CANDIDATES 24 remarks the Nashville Banner "ONE OF 25 when we are not which

TOPICS IN BRIEF - 2

A writer in the Duluth News-Tribune, as quoted by the Literary Digest, tells us that the next time the leader of a jazz band asks radio listeners to send in requests for what they want the gang to play, that writer in the Duluth News-Tribune is going to ask the gang to play checkers or dominoes.

WHAT IS MORE PLEASANT THAN A COLD BATH BEFORE BREAKFAST? The answer is: NO COLD BATH BEFORE BREAKFAST. The Digest reprints that one from Punch. NEWSLIEM - END.

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My News Item of the day is something that's not in the newspapers. I had a very interesting visitor. He is Captain Richard St. Barbe Baker.

Now, Captain Baker is one of the
most English of Englishmen, but he has
spent most of his life in the wilds of
Africa. In fact, he is known as the "Man
of the Trees."

One of the strangest things he told me about was a dance called the dance of the trees. All over Africa the forests are being destroyed and the land reduced to a desert.

Captain Baker formerly was the British Forestry Officer in Kenya, in Central and East Africa. He tried to persuade the natives to plant new trees in place of the trees they cut down. The simple-minded black men couldn't see this at all. They said the matter of trees was in the hands of the gods. And that was that. No amount of reasoning could change their child-like viewpoint.

Among those black men of Kenya nothing

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NEVELIEM - 2

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ever happened unless there was a dance. So the wise Captain called several of the leading men together and told them about the dance of the trees.

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That sounded good to the natives, and on the appointed day 5,000 warriors came, all equipped for the dance, with shields, and spears, and ferocious warpaint.

The Captain informed them that anyone
who wanted to dance would have to join
the ancient and honorable order of The
Men of the Trees.

And those warriers just flooked up. 14 to become Men of the Trees and take part 15 in the dance of the trees.

Captain Baker made them all promise to plant trees. The government nurseries would provide them with the seeds. Well, the boys all joined the new lodge, and then the dance went off in grand style to the beating of tomtoms and barbaric shouts and the stamping of feet.

23 Und That's how the order called the Men
24 of the Trees began. The idea spread.
25 More dances of the trees were held. And

NEWS ITEM - 3

thousands of trees were planted. And now
 hundreds of square miles, that were turning
 into desert, are covered with magnificent
 growths of tropical forest.

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Yes, and the Captain thinks we'd better get busy and reforest America before it becomes like the Sahara. I agree with him. In fact, I wish he'd stay and make everyone of us become a "Man of the Trees." Well, Captain Baker and I chatted along for a while, and then he said, in

¹² his very English way: I for Australia.
¹³ "I say, old chap. I think I'll be

¹³ "I say, old chap. I think I'll be ¹⁴ toddling along -- so -- quaheri".

"And what does quaheri mean?" I
 asked.

"Oh, that means cheerio, or as you 18 say 'so long." until tomerrows."

Well, quaheri sounds like a noble word to me. And so I think I'll conclude by saying: quaheri, folks, quaheri, --22 and, so long until tomorrow.

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